

(c) whether there is an abnormal delay in the settlement of claims filed by farmers; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government for an early settlement of claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Government has recently reviewed the erstwhile Crop Insurance Schemes and introduced yield based Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) from Kharif 2016 to provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of natural calamities, to stabilize the income of farmers etc. Under PMFBY and WBCIS, the premium payable by farmers has been substantially reduced and simplified and there is One premium rate on pan-India basis for farmers which would be maximum 1.5%, 2% and 5% for all Rabi, Kharif and annual horticultural/commercial crops, respectively. The salient features of PMFBY are given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No 1944 (Part (a) to (d)].

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the complaints of delay in settlement of claims under erstwhile Crop Insurance Schemes, substantially reduced timelines for submission of yield data/weather data, processing and settlement of claims have been fixed in the PMFBY/WBCIS. In addition scheme also provides for use of Remote Sensing Technology, Smartphones and Mobile app and Drones for quick estimation of crop losses to ensure early settlement of claims. Crop Insurance Portal has been launched. This will be used extensively for ensuring better administration, co-ordination amongst stakeholders transparency dissemination of information and early settlement of claims.

**Implementation of organic value chain development
for North Eastern Region**

1954. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state the details of mission implementation structure at the National and State level under Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): Realizing the potential of organic farming in the North Eastern Region of the country, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched a **Central Sector Scheme** entitled “**Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region**” for implementation in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland,

Sikkim and Tripura, during 2015-16 to 2017-18. The scheme aims at development of certified organic production in a value chain mode to link growers with consumers and to support the development of entire value chain starting from inputs, seeds, certification, to the creation of facilities for collection, aggregation, processing, marketing and brand building initiative. The scheme was approved with an outlay of ₹ 400 crore for three years.

The Scheme “Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region” is being implemented in a Mission mode. The Mission structure at Government of India (GOI) level is comprised of National Advisory Committee (NAC), Executive Committee (EC), Mission Monitoring Committee (MMC) and Mission Head Quarter at Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW).

At State level, the Mission is being implemented by the State Level Executive Committee (SLEC) and executed through a designated State Lead Agency in the form of State “Organic Commodity Board” or “Organic Mission is as under:

Mission Implementation Structure at State Level

(i) State Level Executive Committee

A State level executive committee will be constituted by the respective State Government under the Chairmanship of Development Commissioner/ Agriculture Production Commissioner with representatives from all concerned Departments and stakeholders. SLEC shall be the sole responsible body for effective implementation of the Mission objectives, judicious utilization of sanctioned funds and to ensure necessary credit flow for infrastructure creation. SLEC shall also be responsible for the creation/nomination of State Lead Agency and provide necessary authorization/ sanction for implementation and utilization of funds through State Lead Agency.

(ii) State Lead Agency/Organic Mission/Organic Commodity Board

The State Lead Agency/Organic Mission/Organic Commodity Board shall be an independent agency with its own bank account. Necessary professional/ trained manpower and staff shall be recruited on contractual basis out of the funds provided for management of lead agency. States can also name any of the existing State agencies as Lead agency but the implementation of the Mission will be managed through dedicated manpower hired specifically for the Mission Management and Implementation.

State Lead Agency will be the nodal agency for implementation of Mission components and for ensuring effective realization of mission goals. Responsibilities of State Lead Agency includes (but not limited to):

- Receiving the funds as per sanction from DAC&FW
- Planning the implementation process and identification of commodities, clusters, area etc.
- Hiring of resource agencies for Farmer Producer Company (FPC) making and for facilitating training, hand holding, Internal Control System (ICS) management, documentation and certification of crop production.
- Facilitating seeds/planting material and input availability.
- Supervision and monitoring of field activities for ensuring timely completion in time bound manner.
- Facilitating tie ups with commercial enterprises and entrepreneurs for setting up of value addition infrastructure.
- Facilitating financial institutions for credit facilitation and subsidy disbursal.
- Roping in professional agencies for activities like branding, labeling, packaging, publicity and certification of processing units.
- Organize seminars/conferences, workshops, Buyer-seller meets, Auction meetings, festivals.
- Facilitate consumer awareness and information dissemination through publicity, printed literature, films and local advertisements.
- Facilitate marketing of organic produce through direct retail, farmer markets, on-line retail chain, tying up with domestic retail chains and exporters.
- Ensure information and knowledge being received through Information and Knowledge Ecosystem and ensure timely data uploading as mandated by Mission Head Quarter in the Ecosystem.

(iii) State Lead Agency to Ensure Implementation keeping end goals in sight

The State Lead Agency will be responsible for implementation of Mission objectives, utilization of funds and for submission of periodical reports and utilization certificate. Ensuring integration of all Mission components to form an end-to-end value chain with effective market linkages will be the final aim of the Lead Agency. The agency shall also ensure that entire Mission implementation is done in such a way that there is effective linkage and coordination between farmer companies, resource agencies and private entrepreneurs for long term sustainability with commercial viability.