

1	2	3	4	5	6
Punjab	4779	10862	1658	760	18059
Rajasthan	2534	3138	967	710	7350
Sikkim	3113	1696	980	1009	6798
Tamil Nadu	2902	1917	1100	1061	6980
Telangana	1450	4227	374	260	6311
Tripura	2185	2772	311	162	5429
Uttarakhand	1069	2531	848	253	4701
Uttar Pradesh	1150	2855	543	376	4923
West Bengal	2126	979	225	650	3980
Group of UTs	5179	1864	213	1312	8568
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	2071	3081	763	512	6426

Figures for remaining States are not published due to inadequate sample size (*i.e.* number of sample households less than 300). Figures for UTs have been clubbed and given against 'Group of UTs' due to the same reason.

Source: Table 1 of Appendix A, NSS Report No. 576: Income, Expenditure, Productive Assets and Indebtedness of Agricultural Households in India.

Promoting paddy sowing machines

†327. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to publicise and popularise the extensive usage of paddy sowing machines with a view to promote the same;
- (b) if so, the details of the production of the machine and its availability;
- (c) whether Government is taking any initiative to reduce the cost of solar pumps so as to provide them to the farmers at affordable price;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the agricultural appliances for which efforts are being made for updation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The training and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

demonstration on paddy sowing machine is provided at Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute (FMTTI) located at Budni (M.P.), Hisar (Haryana), Ananapur (A.P.) and Biswanath Chariali (Assam); and also through ICAR's All India Crop Research Projects (AICRP) located at TNAU, Coimbatore, IIT Kharagpur, OUAT, Bhubaneswar, NERIST Nirjuli and at CIAE, Bhopal. The funds under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) scheme of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) are also provided to State Governments for conducting training and demonstrations of various agricultural machinery.

(b) There are about 19 manufactures of Self Propelled Paddy Transplanter machine in the country and the machine is adequately available in the market.

(c) and (d) Under Phase-II (2014-17) of the Off-grid and Decentralized Solar PV Applications Scheme of Ministry of New and Renewable (MNRE), Central Financial Assistance up to 30% of the benchmark cost has been provided for installation of solar pumps. Further, due to provision of the scheme mandating procurement only through tender route, prices of solar pumps have reduced which is reflected in the revised benchmark costs issued by MNRE in June, 2018.

(e) Design refinements in the agricultural implements is a continuous exercise and are being carried out by centres of AICRP of ICAR to suit the requirement of agricultural workers of different region and based on feedback received from farmers and users. During last 4 years, ICAR has developed 48 technologies in the field of farm mechanization.

Implementation of PMFBY

†328. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) major changes have been effected in old schemes meant for crop insurance by doing away with the discrepancies therein so that farmers could be benefitted more, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the quantum of premium given by farmers have been drastically reduced and along with this the limit of payment on insurance has been removed under the PMFBY, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.