

(c) whether Government has set year-on-year target for insurance companies to enrol non-loanee farmers under the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. With a view to ensure better transparency, accountability and timely payment of claims to the farmers, Government has comprehensively revised the Operational Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) which have become effective from 01.10.2018. Specific cut-off dates/timelines for various activities including timelines for releasing of premium subsidy to insurance companies by States, furnishing of yield data within one month of completion of harvest and payment of claims by insurance companies within 21 days of receipt of clear yield data from the concerned State Government have been provided in the revised Operational Guidelines to ensure early settlement of claims to farmers. Revised Operational Guidelines also provide for target for incremental 10% coverage to insurance companies for coverage of Non loanee farmers.

The following provisions, *inter alia*, have also been made in the revised Operational Guidelines to facilitate early settlement of claims:—

- (i) Provision of 12% interest rate per annum to be paid by the Insurance Company to farmers for delay in settlement claims beyond 10 days of prescribed cut off date for payment of claims.
- (ii) State Government have to pay 12% interest rate for delay in release of State share of Subsidy beyond three months of prescribed cut off date/submission of requisition by Insurance Companies.
- (iii) Auto approval of yield data and calculation of claims on portal.

Per centage of farmers in the country

1304. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the per centage of farmers to India's population at present;
- (b) the number of farmers involved in farming of cash and non-cash crops;
- (c) the number of farmers having farming land of area more than 10 hectare out of the total farmers in the country;
- (d) in what manner Government differentiate between farmers and agricultural workers and the criteria for that; and

(e) the total number of agricultural workers in the country, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) As per Census 2011 conducted by the Registrar General of India (RGI), the per centage of agricultural workers (cultivators and agricultural labourers) to India's population is about 22 per cent.

(b) The information on number of farmers involved in farming of cash and non-cash crops is not centrally maintained.

(c) The information on number of farmers as per size-class of land holding is not available in the Census conducted by RGI. However, as per the provisional results of Agricultural Census 2015-16 (Phase-I) conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the total number of operational holdings in large size class, *i.e.*, 10 hectare and above is 0.83 million.

(d) For the purpose of Census conducted by RGI, a person is classified as 'cultivator' if he or she is engaged in cultivation of land owned or held from Government or held from private persons or institutions for payment in money, in kind or by way of share of crop output. Cultivation includes effective supervision or direction in cultivation. A person who has given out her/his land to another person or persons or institution(s) for cultivation for payment in money, in kind or by way of share of crop and who does not even supervise or direct cultivate on land is not treated as cultivator. An 'agricultural labourer' is defined as a person who works on another person's land for wages in money or in kind or in the form of share in crop output is regarded as an agricultural labourer. He or she has no risk in the cultivation, but merely works on another person's land for wages. An agricultural labourer has no right of lease or contract on land on which he/she works.

(e) The total number of agricultural workers in the country as per Census 2011 conducted by RGI is 263.1 million, comprising of 118.8 million cultivators and 144.3 million agricultural labourers.

Support to dairy farmers

1305. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether milk prices have reduced by 20 to 30 per cent and dairy farmers are suffering from low prices, whereas consumers are paying high prices for the same;