

Sl.No.	State/Category	Unspent Balance (₹ in crore)
35.	Uttarakhand	71.34
36.	West Bengal	229.49
	SUB TOTAL	4389.61
37.	Nominated	90.53
	SUB TOTAL	90.53
	GRAND TOTAL	4480.14

Unremunerative agricultural sector

*176. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the fact that India is an agriculture-based country and agro production has a big role in the economy of the country, agriculture is proving unprofitable as agro production has become unremunerative; and

(b) if so, the action Government has taken to improve the agricultural sector in the country and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) As there are limits to increasing area sown, profitability of crops depends on productivity and demand-supply conditions. Productivity of crops varies on the basis of location specific factors including soil, climatic condition, methods of cultivation, application of technology and inputs used. No generalized evidence on reduction in profitability of crops in recent years has been observed on an all-India basis. Increase in productivity is reflected in the record foodgrain production in the last two years. As per the Fourth Advance Estimates for 2017-18, total foodgrain production in the country is estimated at a record high of 284.83 million tonnes which is 9.72 million tonnes higher than the earlier record foodgrain production of 275.11 million tonnes achieved during 2016-17.

Government is committed to farmer's welfare. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy announced in 2018-19 season, whereby the farmers are assured of a minimum of 50 per cent as margin of profit is another progressive step forward in a series of reforms that the Government has been rolling out for the last 4 years.

Government has been implementing/reorienting various schemes for betterment of agriculture sector with four key elements: reducing input costs; ensuring fair price for the produce; reducing wastage; and creating alternate sources of income.

Some of the major initiatives of the Government to increase the welfare of the farmers are Soil Health Cards (SHC), production and availability of quality seeds, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Moreover, Government is also promoting allied activities like dairying, poultry, beekeeping and fisheries which will mitigate risks associated with dependence on agricultural crops through such income supplementation.

The Government is promoting group farming amongst the farmers. Small and marginal farmers are mobilized to form Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)/Farmer Interest Group for aggregation and economies of scale. FPOs are eligible for financial assistance *inter alia* under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture and National Food Security Mission.

Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives of the Government and in keeping with its commitment and dedication for the Annadata, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA). The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018 which envisages scaling up procurement significantly from the current Kharif marketing season.

Renaming of Allahabad High Court

*177. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government proposes to rename the Allahabad High Court to Prayagraj High Court, as the name of Allahabad city has been changed officially?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): No, Sir. There is no proposal presently for renaming the Allahabad High Court as Prayagraj High Court.

Quality of Legal Education

*178. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the step being taken by Government to improve the quality of legal education in the country;

(b) whether there exists guidelines to declare a Law University as National Law University (NLU), if so, the details thereof;