

Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW). An amount of ₹ 122.28 crore has been released to State of Jharkhand including Santhal Pargana during the year 2018-19 under various schemes of DAC&FW.

Drought prediction system to help farmers

2234. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed the severity and the after effect of present drought on Indian farmers and agricultural sector;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to face the challenges; and
- (c) whether any drought prediction system is introduced by Government for helping the farmers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) As per second India Meteorological Department (IMD) Long Range Forecast, released on 31.05.2019, rainfall over the country as a whole for the 2019 South-West Monsoon Season (June to September) is likely to be Normal (96% to 104% of the Long Period Average). However, a detailed advisory has been issued to all States/Union Territories before the onset of Monsoon, 2019 season for reviewing the States' preparedness in managing any weather related contingency for mitigating the adverse impacts of an aberrant monsoon. District Agriculture Contingency Plans for 648 districts have been prepared by Central Research Institute for Dry land Agriculture (CRIDA) to mitigate the situation in drought affected areas. There is a provision of distribution of seeds of contingency crops such as pulses, millets, oilseeds, which are drought hardy and survive with minimal available water in rain fed/drought affected areas under National Food Security Mission (NFSM). States also have been made aware about the latest know-how/technology during National Conference on Kharif 2019.

(c) National Agricultural Drought Assessment and Monitoring System (NADAMS) project, developed by National Remote Sensing Centre, provides near real-time information on prevalence, severity level and persistence of agricultural drought at State/district/sub-district level. NADAMS project is being handled by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. Currently, it covers 17 States of India, which are predominantly agriculture based and prone to drought situation. Since 2017, the drought assessment is done using the

methodology prescribed in the 'Manual for Drought Management, 2016'. MNCFC carries out the assessment using rainfall, remote sensing vegetation index and moisture adequacy index during Kharif season. Further, MNCFC is providing fortnightly and monthly drought assessment reports (June to October) to concerned States and national level Government agencies.

Implementation of crop insurance schemes

2235. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently reviewed various crop insurance schemes which are implemented for the benefit of farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise;
- (c) the deficiencies identified in various schemes and corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government for proper implementation of these schemes; and
- (d) the details of premium collected from the farmers in each State/UT under various crop insurance schemes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The revisions/improvements in the crop insurance schemes is a continuous process and decisions on suggestions/representations are taken from time to time after consultation with various stakeholders. On the basis of experience of implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) during past 2 years certain deficiencies like late/non-settlement of claims by insurance companies, late release of their share in premium subsidy by State Governments, delay in submission of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) based yield data to insurance companies by State Governments, demand for coverage of more risks in localized calamities/post harvest loss, very short window/time to inform losses for individual assessment, non-availability of structured grievance redressal system, non-availability of cover for perennial/horticultural crops etc. under yield index based scheme were noticed.

With a view to ensure better transparency, accountability, timely payment of claims to the farmers and to make the scheme more farmer friendly, Government has comprehensively revised the Operational Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima