

Apart from increasing MSPs, Government has taken several steps to provide remunerative prices to farmers for their produce which include undertaking procurement through designated procurement agencies, implementing e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), enacting the Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017 and promoting Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).

The Government is working on market architecture so as to ensure that farmers get remunerative prices on their produce. These include setting up of Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) with a view to promote 22,000 number of retail markets in close proximity of farm gate; competitive and transparent wholesale trade at APMC through e-NAM; and a robust and pro-farmer export policy.

The recently launched Umbrella Scheme ‘Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanraksha Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)’ provides for a holistic arrangement for assurance of a remunerative and stable price environment for growers/farmers to increase agriculture production and productivity. This Umbrella Scheme comprises Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses and oilseeds, Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds to ensure MSP to the farmers.

Suicide by farmers

31. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA:

DR. L. HANUMANTHALAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who committed suicide during the last three years, along with reasons therefor, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has enhanced compensation to families of farmers who committed suicide;

(c) whether Government has taken any preventive measures to stop suicide by the farmers in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of

Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These reports on suicides are available upto 2015 on its website. State-wise details of ADSI Reports for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015, is placed at Statement (*See* below). The reports for the year 2016 onwards have not been published.

(b) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments provides relief to families of farmers who commit suicide. As per information available, relief provided to the families of farmers who committed suicide by some of the States are as follows:—

- (i) *Ex-gratia* relief to the heirs of the deceased farmer.
- (ii) One time settlement to wipe off loans/liabilities towards rehabilitation of the family members.
- (iii) Relief to the children of the deceased to get free education up to post graduation including hostel facility.

(c) and (d) The Government has been reorienting the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centric approach as against the earlier production centric policy. This focuses on achieving high productivity, reduced cost of cultivation and remunerative price on the produce, with a view to earning higher profits for the farmers.

The Government has set a target of Doubling of Farmers' Income (DFI) by the year 2022. The DFI Committee has recommended a strategy to achieve doubling of farmers' income in real terms by the year 2022. The Government has constituted an Empowered Body on 23.01.2019 for monitoring the implementation of the recommendation of the DFI Strategy.

Several initiatives have already been rolled out on the recommendations of DFI Committee which *inter-alia* include advocating progressive market reforms through the State Governments, encouraging contract farming through the State Governments by promulgating of Model Contract Farming Act, upgradation of Gramin Haats to work as centres of aggregation and for direct purchase of agricultural commodities from the farmers, e-NAM to provide farmers an electronic online trading platform, distribution of Soil Health Cards to farmers so that the use of fertilizers can be rationalized, increase water efficiency through PMKSY- "Per drop more crop" , better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif and Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least

150 per cent of the cost of production, providing total interest subvention up to 5% (inclusive of 3% prompt repayment incentive) on short-term crop loans up to ₹ 3.00 lakh, thus making loan available to farmers at a reduced rate of 4% per annum on prompt repayment and extended the facility of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) for animal husbandry and fisheries related activities as well as extend the Interest Subvention Facilities to such categories of farmers.

With a view to provide income support to all farmers' families across the country, to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs, the Central Government started a new Central Sector Scheme, namely, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN). The scheme aims to provide a payment of ₹6000/- per year, in three 4-monthly installments of ₹ 2000/- to the farmers families, subject to certain exclusions relating to higher income groups. About 14.5 crore farmers are expected to be covered under the scheme.

Further with a view to provide social security net for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) as they have minimal or no savings to provide for old age and to support them in the event of consequent loss of livelihood, the Government has decided to implement another new Central Sector Scheme for providing old age pension of ₹ 3000/- to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years. The scheme aims to cover around 5 crore beneficiaries in the first three years. It would be a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, with entry age of 18 to 40 years.

All these steps are implemented to reduce agrarian distress and for welfare of the farmers.

Statement

Suicide by persons self-employed in farming/agriculture

Sl. No.	State/UT	2013	2014			2015		
			Farmers (2)	Labo- urers (3)	Total (2)+(3)	Farmers (4)	Labo- urers (5)	Total (4)+(5)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2014	160	472	632	516	400	916
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	37	0	3	3	7	3	10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Assam	305	21	38	59	84	54	138
4.	Bihar	127	0	10	10	0	7	7
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	443	312	755	854	100	954
6.	Goa	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	582	45	555	600	57	244	301
8.	Haryana	374	14	105	119	28	134	162
9.	Himachal Pradesh	33	32	31	63	0	46	46
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	18	12	25	37	0	21	21
11.	Jharkhand	142	0	4	4	0	21	21
12.	Karnataka	1403	321	447	768	1197	372	1569
13.	Kerala	972	107	700	807	3	207	210
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1090	826	372	1198	581	709	1290
15.	Maharashtra	3146	2568	1436	4004	3030	1261	4291
16.	Manipur	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
17.	Meghalaya	5	0	2	2	2	1	3
18.	Mizoram	6	0	5	5	0	1	1
19.	Nagaland	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	150	5	97	102	23	27	50
21.	Punjab	83	24	40	64	100	24	124
22.	Rajasthan	292	0	373	373	3	73	76
23.	Sikkim	35	35	0	35	15	3	18
24.	Tamil Nadu	105	68	827	895	2	604	606
25.	Telangana	NA	898	449	1347	1358	42	1400
26.	Tripura	56	0	32	32	1	48	49
27.	Uttar Pradesh	750	63	129	192	145	179	324
28.	Uttarakhand	15	0	0	0	0	2	2
29.	West Bengal	0	0	230	230	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	8	0	8	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi (UT)	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	16	16	0	12	12
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		11772	5650	6710	12360	8007	4595	12602

Source : Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau.

Insurance cover for risk-prone crops

32. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any qualitative and quantitative assessment of the nature of risks involved for the major crops as a result of climate/weather change and localised after calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with major crops classified as risk-prone crops, region-wise;

(c) whether the existing scheme and other schemes announced recently for the welfare of the farmers are adequate to cover all the risks involved in the agriculture sector and provide security to farmers, including small and marginal farmers, in terms of insurance cover to their crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Government has conducted several studies to measure and