

Assistance under the AMI Scheme is available to Individual farmers, Group of farmers/ growers, registered Farmer Produce Organisations (FPOs) etc.

Government is implementing Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojna (PMKSY) scheme with the objective of creation of modern infrastructure along with efficient supply chain management for the entire processing value chain.

MSP for Rabi and Kharif crops

†675. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase made by Government in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rabi and Kharif crops for the year 2019-20 in comparison to the year 2018-19;

(b) whether the MSP of cereal crops, pulses and oilseed have also been increased by Government; and

(c) the improvement likely to happen in the condition of farmers with the increase in the MSP?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The increase in Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rabi and Kharif crops for the year 2019-20 in comparison to the year 2018-19 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Government fixes MSPs of 22 mandated agricultural crops including cereals, pulses and oilseeds, on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP). The increase in MSP of above mentioned crops are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. This MSP policy whereby the farmers are assured of a minimum of 50 percent as margin of profit is one of the important and progressive steps towards doubling farmers' income by 2022 and improving their welfare substantively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement**Minimum Support Prices**

(₹ per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	2018-19	2019-20	Absolute Increase in MSP in 2019-20 over 2018-19
1	2	3	4	5
Kharif Crops				
1.	Paddy (Common)	1750	1815	65
	(Grade A)	1770	1835	65
2.	Jowar (Hybrid)	2430	2550	120
	(Maldandi)	2450	2570	120
3.	Bajra	1950	2000	50
4.	Maize	1700	1760	60
5.	Rag I	2897	3150	253
6.	Arhar (Tur)	5675	5800	125
7.	Moong	6975	7050	75
8.	Urad	5600	5700	100
9.	Cotton (Medium Staple)	5150	5255	105
	(Long Staple)	5450	5550	100
10.	Groundnut in Shell	4890	5090	2001
11.	Sunflower Seed	5388	5650	262
12.	Soyabean (Yellow)	3399	3710	311
13.	Sesamum	6249	6485	236
14.	Nigerseed	5877	5940	63
Rabi Crops				
1.	Wheat	1840	1925	85

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Barley	1440	1525	85"
3.	Gram	4620	4875	255
4.	Masur (Lentil)	4475	4800	325
5.	Rapeseed & Mustard	4200	4425	225
6.	Safflower	4945	5215	270

Improving soil productivity and fertility

676. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce any programme to improve soil health to increase production, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued regarding soil health to farmers from time to time; and

(c) whether proper training is provided to farmers regarding proper usage of fertilizers for improving the quality of soil?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The Government has introduced Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme to assist State Governments to provide soil health cards to all farmers across the country once in a cycle of 2 years. Soil Health Card provides information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility.

To increase acceptability of SHC by farmers, during 2019-20, a pilot project 'Development of Model Villages' has been taken up where soil samples collection has been taken up at individual farm holding with farmer's participation instead of sample collection at grids being done earlier.

(b) and (c) Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrient to sustain good soil health. In this regard advisories are issued to farmers from time to time.