

SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), however, only 1.08 lakh tonnes has been procured;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the arrival of these crops began in October and will end by February, 2020;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in many States the procurement has not even started; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) During Kharif 2019-20, upto 11.03.2020 a quantity of 44.77 lakh metric tonnes of pulses and oilseeds have been sanctioned for procurement under Price Support Scheme (PSS) under the umbrella Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) and against which, as on 05.03.2020, a quantity of 11.48 lakh metric tonnes have been procured.

(b) The arrival of Kharif pulses and oilseeds depends upon the harvesting period of the States which normally began in October. However, the procurement under the Government Scheme is expected to continue till April, 2020 for some crops in the States.

(c) and (d) Under this scheme, Government agencies procure through the State nominated agencies, the notified pulses and oilseeds of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at Minimum Support Price (MSP) in consultation with the concerned State Government / Union Territory as and when market price of these produce fall below the MSP, as per prescribed guidelines. The procurement against the sanction also depends upon the preparedness and logistic arrangement made by the respective State Governments.

Changes in PMFBY

2271. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced changes in Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to make it optional;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the same;

(d) the details of fund allocated, released and utilised during 2018-19 and 2019-20 under PMFBY, State-wise and year-wise; and

(e) the details of fund allocated for the year 2020-21?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) are being regularly reviewed especially the challenges faced by the stakeholders in its implementation since their inception in Kharif 2016 season. Accordingly, this Department had made detailed consultations with all stakeholders *viz.* State Governments, farmer organizations, insurance companies, reinsurance companies, financial institutions, concerned organizations, and Central Government Departments at various forums to identify the challenges and finalise the possible solutions/remedial measures etc. Based on their feedback and suggestions changes including making the scheme optional for all farmers have been incorporated in the provisions/ parameters of ongoing PMFBY/ RWBCIS. Details of Change made in the schemes are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) and (e) Being Central Sector Scheme, State-wise allocation/release is not made under PMFBY/RWBCIS. Funds are released to the Central fund routing agency *i.e.* Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) who in turn release the Central Government's 50% share in premium subsidy on receipt of respective State Government's share, to the concerned insurance companies. Details of funds allocated and released/ utilized during 2018-19 and 2019-20 and funds allocated for the year 2020-21 are given in following table:

Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
2018-19	13014.15	12983.1	11945.39
2019-20	14000.00	13640.85	12138.44
2020-21	15695.00	-	-

Statement

Changes incorporated in the provisions/parameters of ongoing PMFBY/RWBCIS w.e.f. Kharif 2020 season

- To address the demand of farmers, the scheme has been made voluntary for all farmers. There is no change in farmers' share of premium.

- The premium subsidy sharing pattern between Centre and North Eastern States has been changed from 50:50 to 90:10. This has been done to allow more States to notify the scheme and existing States to notify more crops and areas to facilitate greater coverage of farmers under the scheme. For remaining States, subsidy sharing pattern will continue as 50:50.
- Insurance companies will now be given work by the States for 3 years in a go instead of one year thereby increasing their commitment and accountability to the farmers.
- In districts where the farmer is at disadvantage due to lower scale of finance, the district will have option to choose value of notional average yield or scale of finance whichever is in the interest of the farmers.
- The issue of high premium rate for few crops/areas due to adverse selection has been suitably addressed. The requisite central share of premium subsidy will be provided for areas/crops having gross premium rate upto 25% for irrigated and upto 30% for un-irrigated areas/crops. Besides, alternate risk mitigation measures will be explored for these areas/crops.
- In view of the demand of many States, option has been given to States to choose additional risk covers besides shortfall in yield-based cover depending upon the local weather challenges and requirements of the farmers.
- The States delaying the release of subsidy beyond agreed timelines will not be allowed to participate in upcoming seasons.
- Two-step process of crop yield estimation using weather and satellite indicators etc. will be adopted which will help in early assessment of loss.
- Use of smart sampling technique through satellite data for crop cutting experiments by some states has shown increased efficiency in implementation. This will now be universalized.
- The delay by some States in submission of crop yield data will now be suitably addressed using technological solutions.
- Provision has been made for earmarked administrative expenses @ 3% for strengthening, the infrastructure and technology for better delivery of the Scheme.