

1	2	3
30.	Sikkim	11,760
31.	Tamil Nadu	38,37,536
32.	Telangana	36,77,238
33.	Tripura	2,04,812
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2,34,77,264
35.	Uttarakhand	7,76,355
36.	West Bengal	0
TOTAL		9,89,01,864

#### **Crisis in farm sector**

3050. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would find ways to extend schemes like PM-KISAN to tenant farmers, apart from giving pension to old farmers and broaden the scope of procurement to all States to tide over the crisis in the farm sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether rural India is passing through one of its worst situations at present as the farm incomes are falling, leading to significant drop in rural spending, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The basic criteria of the PM-KISAN Scheme is landholding. The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana (PM-KMY) has already been operationalized for giving ₹ 3000/- monthly pension to the farmers when they reach 60 years of age.

Procurement of Pulses, oil seeds and copra under Price Support Scheme (under umbrella scheme of PM-AASHA) are done by the Central Nodal Agencies through State nominated agencies at Minimum Support Price (MSP) directly from registered

farmers after receipt of proposal from the concerned State/UT Governments as per extant guidelines.

Procurement policy of Central Government is open ended, under which paddy and wheat offered by farmers within the stipulated period are purchased for Central Pool at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by Food Corporation of India (FCI)/State Governments/State Government Agencies to help farmers get remunerative price and prevent distress sale. However, if any producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP, he/she is free to sell the produce in open market. Coarse grains are procured at MSP by State Governments as per the procurement plan prepared in consultation with FCI and approved by the Central Government, subject to its distribution by the State Government under National Food Security Act (NFSA)/Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).

The Central Government/FCI along with various State Governments formulate procurement plan to procure foodgrains from the farmers. The steps taken to ensure remunerative price to farmers are:—

- (i) MSP operations are given wide publicity through pamphlets, banners, sign boards radio, TV and advertisements through print and electronic media.
  - (ii) Farmers are made aware of the quality specifications and purchase system, etc. to facilitate them to bring their produce conforming to the specifications.
  - (iii) Procurement centres are opened by respective State Government Agencies/FCI, taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics/infrastructure such as storage and transportation, etc. Large number of temporary purchase centres, in addition to the existing Mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points for the convenience of the farmers.
- (d) Agriculture and farmers are backbone of rural economy. There have been a series of interventions for income and price support for farmers by the Government. However, in the last few years, the terms of trade for agriculture have not been beneficial to farmers owing to fall in food inflation since 2017-18 *vis-à-vis* non-food sector and decline in international prices of agri-commodities. Also individual landholdings have grown smaller due to repeated divisions. The limited land ends up supporting ever larger numbers perpetuating decline in income of the farmer family. Hence, there was an urgent need to put in place a mechanism for providing structured

support to the most vulnerable sections of the country for procuring inputs, such as, seeds, fertilizers, equipment, labour etc., to avoid indebtedness at different stages of crop cycle and appropriate post harvest interventions etc., *i.e.*, an all inclusive mechanism which addresses the various needs of all such farmers in the country.

With that aim in view, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) was started by Government, to augment the income of the farmers by providing income support to all landholding farmers' families across the country to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the Scheme an amount of ` 6000/- per year is transferred in three 4-monthly installments of ` 2000/- directly into the bank accounts of the farmers, subject to certain exclusion criteria relating to higher income status.

Further, Government has taken various long term sustainable measures to boost agriculture productivity and farmers' income and rural economy. Including, *inter-alia*, the following:—

- (i) With a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation, a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been launched, which provides insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances, with low premium contribution by farmers.
- (ii) Minimum Support Price (MSPs) are announced for various crops from time-to-time.
- (iii) Scheme of Soil Health Cards (SHC) has been implemented so that the use of fertilizers can be rationalized.
- (iv) "Per drop more crop" initiative has been undertaken under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is encouraged for optimal utilization of water, reducing cost of inputs and increasing productivity.
- (v) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) has been implemented for promoting organic farming.
- (vi) e-NAM initiative has been undertaken to provide farmers an electronic, transparent and competitive online trading platform.
- (vii) Agro forestry has been promoted under "Har Medh Par Ped" for additional income.

- (viii) An Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)' has been launched, aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers.
- (ix) Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.
- (x) The scheme of Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) has been implemented for easy availability of agricultural credit to farmers, including animal husbandry and fisheries farmers.
- (xi) Institutional agricultural credit at affordable interests has been brought within the reach of more and more farmers. Government provides interest subvention of 2% on short-term crop loans up to ₹ 3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at an interest rate of 4% per annum on prompt repayment.
- (xii) Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme 2018-19, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% has been made available for the first year on the restructured amount. In order to discourage distress sale by farmers and to encourage them to store their produce in warehouses against negotiable receipts, the benefit of interest subvention will be available to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Cards for a further period of upto six months post harvest on the same rate as available to crop loan.

#### **Import of edible oil**

3051. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the quantity of edible oil that is going to be imported in the country during this financial year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): The quantity of edible oil imported during the year 2019-2020 (upto December, 2019) is 11632948.26 Tons. A detailed statement of imports showing HS code-wise is enclosed in the Statement.