

1	2	3	4
22.	Rajasthan	24	2
23.	Sikkim	2	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	421	6
25.	Telangana	8	491
26.	Tripura	38	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	153	108
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0
29.	West Bengal	0	0
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	5
31.	Chandigarh	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	7
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0
34.	Delhi (UT)	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		4324	5957

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

MSP coverage for more crops

673. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to increase MSP coverage for more crops in the short run due to COVID-19 pandemic;

(b) if not, the manner in which Government is planning to pass on the benefits of positive growth in agriculture to farmers during a time of falling demand;

(c) whether there are any plans to introduce transport subsidies for farmers, considering the rise in input prices due to rising fuel prices and falling demand due to COVID-19; and

(d) if not, the measures that are being taken to protect farmers from incurring losses?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) At present MSP is declared for 22 crops. During Covid-19, the number of purchase centres for buying produce from farmers on MSP were increased leading to enhanced purchase. Also, in view of the pandemic, concerted efforts have been made by the Government towards passing on the benefits of positive growth in agriculture to farmers. Game-change initiatives of "Atma Nirbhar Krishi" and "Atma Nirbhar Kisan" were taken. These include, *inter-alia*, promulgation of three ordinances namely, Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020; Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020 and Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020; provision of ₹ 1 Lakh crore under the Scheme for Agriculture Infrastructure Fund; Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs); KCC saturation drive for the farmers, and the increased focus on Digital Agriculture.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On 10th June, 2020, Government has approved the extension of the Operation Greens Scheme from Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) to all fruits and vegetables (TOTAL) for a period of six months on pilot basis as part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Under the scheme, Ministry of Food Processing Industries will provide subsidy @ 50 % of the cost of the following two components, subject to the cost norms:

- (i) Transportation of eligible crops from surplus production cluster to consumption centre; and/or
- (ii) Hiring of appropriate storage facilities for eligible crops (for maximum period of 3 months);

Further, various additional measures have been taken by the Government to facilitate farmers in the marketing of farm produce during the pandemic. The Warehouse and FPO modules have been developed and linked with e-NAM which facilitated the

farmers to sell their produce easily without going to the market. These modules are being used by various State Governments. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare had launched "KISAN RATH", a farmer friendly mobile application in April, 2020 to facilitate farmers and traders in searching transport vehicles for Primary and Secondary transportation for movement of Agriculture and Horticulture produce. Further, Advisory has been issued by the Ministry to all State Governments to facilitate direct marketing from the farmers/Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)/Cooperatives, etc., by limiting regulations under State APMC Act.

Loss of crops due to locust attack

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

(a) the total loss of crops due to locust swarm (Tiddi Dal) attack recently *i.e.* in the month of June/July, 2020 in various parts of the country, State-wise and district-wise;

(b) whether any Central team has been sent to each State to find out the actual loss suffered by the farmers; and

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the farmers whose crops have been damaged by the locust attack?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) State Governments of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Bihar have reported that, no crop losses have been reported in their States. Government of Haryana has reported below 33% crop damage in a total area of 2388 hectare area of Charkhi Dadri, 489 hectare in Sirsa, 390 hectare in Rewari, 1700 hectare in Bhiwani, 1129 hectare in Mahendragarh, 373 hectare in Hisar and 52 hectare in Rohtak districts. Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported 10-15 percent damage in soybean crop in 4400 ha in Damoh district. State Government of Maharashtra has reported below 33% crop damage in 236 hectare area in Nagpur, 160 hectare in Bhandara, 320 hectare in Gondiya and 89.9 hectare in Amravati districts. State Government of Uttarakhand has reported a crop damage (less than 33%) in 251 hectare in Udham Singh Nagar, 14 hectare in Bageshwar and 2 hectare in Pithoragarh districts. State Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported a crop damage (less than 33%) in 481 hectare area in Jhansi and 07 hectare area of Sonbhadra districts due to locust attack during June/July, 2020.