

Reduction in allocation for MIS-PSS

681. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the budget 2020-21, Government has reduced allocations to Market Intervention Scheme and Price Support Scheme (MIS-PSS) and remunerative prices to farmers for Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA);

(b) whether it is also a fact that the budget for PM-AASHA has been reduced to one-third from ₹1,500 crore in 2019-20 to ₹500 crore in 2020-21;

(c) if so, reasons therefor and the plan to solve plight of farmers in the country and the post COVID-19 situation; and

(d) the detailed proposal to procure crops under PSS and steps taken to provide adequate remuneration to farmers for their produce?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The final Budget allocation during 2019-20 under MIS/PSS was 2010.20 crore and for PDPS/PPSS under PM-AASHA was ₹321.00 crore. For the year 2020-21 the budget allocation for MIS/PSS is ₹2000 crore and for PDPS/PPSS is ₹500 crore. The estimated expenditure under PM-AASHA (PSS/PDPS/PPSS) depends upon the States/ UTs option for implementation of PSS or PDPS for the particular oilseeds in the season and the prevailing market price in the mandies. However, the Budget allocation for the year can be revised based on the requirement of scheme implementation.

(d) Under Price Support"-Scheme (PSS), Government agencies procure the notified pulses, oilseeds and copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at Minimum Support Price (MSP) directly from farmers in consultation with the concerned State Governments / Union Territories as and when market price of these pulses fall below the MSP. The payments to the farmers are made through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)/National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) and account payee cheque by the procuring agencies.

Prospects for production of pulses

682. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the prospects for production of pulses in the current financial year;

- (b) whether the monsoon has been conducive for production of pulses; and
- (c) whether the country is going to be self-sufficient this year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) In the current Kharif season, 137.87 lakh hectare area has been sown under pulses compared to 131.76 lakh hectare during corresponding period of last year which is around 5% higher and around 7% higher to the average of last 5 years (128.88 lakh ha.). Further, extended rainfall, favorable soil moisture, conducive weather and sufficient water reservoirs in major pulses producing states have the good prospects for production of pulses in the current financial year.

(c) The Government has taken several steps for enhancing production and productivity of pulses in the country and implementation of various schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) and Crops Diversification Programme (CDP) would result in achieving near self sufficiency in pulses production this year.

Damage of crops due to heavy rains

683. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to heavy rains in different parts of the country, many standing crops got adversely affected, if so, the details of crops which got affected, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry has taken care of the plight of farmers whose crops got damaged and had to face heavy loss, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the State which suffered most due to heavy rains, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) There have been extreme weather events in the form of heavy rains in some parts of the country which affected the standing crops. As reported by the states, the state-wise details of the crops affected due to heavy rains is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF),