

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 59
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5/2/2021

DECISIONS TAKEN TO INCREASE THE FARMERS' INCOME

59 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of important decisions taken by Government to increase the income of farmers during the last three years; and
- (b) the changes brought about in the lives of farmers due to these decisions, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59 FOR 5.2.2021 REGARDING DECISIONS TAKEN TO INCREASE THE FARMERS' INCOME.

(a) & (b): During the last three years, the Government took various decisions and initiatives to increase the income of farmers. Government constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee in April, 2016 to examine issues relating to “Doubling of Farmers Income” and recommend strategies to achieve the same which submitted its Report to the Government in September, 2018 containing the strategy for doubling of farmers’ income by the year 2022.

Government adopted several developmental programmes, schemes, reforms and policies, that focus on higher incomes for the farmers by supporting the policies & programmes through higher budgetary allocations, non-budgetary financial resources by way of creating Corpus Funds and supplementary income transfers under PM-KISAN. A list of decisions and initiatives taken by the Government are at **Annexure**.

1. Unprecedented enhancement in budget allocation

In the year 2013-14, the Budget allocation for Department of Agriculture was only Rs. 21933.50 crore. This has been increased by more than 5.5 times to **Rs. 1,23017.57 crore** in 2021-22.

2. Record food grains and horticulture production

Food grain production has increased from 265.05 million tonnes in 2013-14 to record **296.65 million tones** in 2019-20 which is the highest ever food grain production. As per third advanced estimates, horticulture production during 2019-20 is **319.57 million MT** which is the highest ever for Indian horticulture.

3. Fixing of MSP at one-and-a half times the cost of production –

- Government has increased the MSP for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production from 2018-19.
- MSP for Paddy has increased to Rs. 1868 per quintal in 2020-21 from Rs. 1310 per quintal in 2013-14 marking an increase of 43%.
- MSP for Wheat increased from Rs. 1400 per quintal in 2013-14 to Rs. 1975 per quintal in 2020-21.

4. Increase in procurement from farmers

- MSP payment to farmers for pulses has increased by 95.93 times during the last five years (2016-17 to 2020-21) in comparison to the period from 2009-10 to 2013-14. MSP Payment of **Rs 61,861 Crore** has been made as against Rs 645 Crore of the previous 5 years.
- MSP payment to farmers for oilseeds and copra has increased by 10.80 times during the last five years (2016-17 to 2020-21) in comparison to the period from 2009-10 to 2013-14. MSP Payment of **Rs 26627 Crore** has been made as against Rs 2460 Crore of the previous 5 years.

5. Income support to farmers through PM KISAN

Launch of PM-KISAN in 2019 -an income support scheme providing Rs. 6000 per year in 3 equal installments. A total of **Rs. 115276.77 crore** has been released so far to **10.74 crore farmer families**.

6. Pradhan Mantri Fasal BimaYojana (PMFBY)

PMFBY was launched in 2016 addressing problems of high premium rates for farmers and reduction in sum insured due to capping. In past 4 years of implementation – 23 crore farmer applicants enrolled and over 7.5 crore farmer applicants have received **claims of over Rs. 90,000 crore**. During this period nearly ₹ 17,505 crore were paid by farmers as their share of premium against which claims of over ₹ 90,000 Crore have been paid to them. Thus for every 100 rupees of premium paid by farmers, they have received Rs. 517 as claims.

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7. Institutional credit for agriculture sector

- Increased from Rs. 7.3 lakh crore in 2013-14 with a target to reach Rs. 16.5 lakh crore in 2021-22.
- Benefit of concessional institutional credit through KCC at 4% interest per annum has also now been extended to Animal Husbandry and Fisheries farmers for meeting their short term working capital needs.
- A special drive has been undertaken since February 2020 to provide concessional credit to PM-KISAN beneficiaries through Kisan Credit Cards. 174.96 lakh KCC applications sanctioned and Rs. 163627 crore loan sanctioned as part of the drive.

8. Providing Soil Health Cards to farmers

Soil Health Card Scheme was introduced in the year 2014-15 to optimize usage of nutrients. Soil health cards have been issued free of cost to nearly 11 crore farmers under a nationwide program.

9. Promotion of organic farming in the country

- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) was initiated in 2015-16 to promote organic farming in the country. 30934 clusters have been formed and an area of 10.26 lakh ha has been covered benefitting 15.47 lakh farmers.
- Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) has been launched. 169 Farmer Producer Companies have been formed comprising of 83,096 farmers and covering 79,445 ha area.

10. Neem Coating of Urea

Neem Coated Urea has been introduced since 2015-16 to ensure long availability of nutrients in the soil by slow release of nitrogen. It has also helped in curtailing diversion of urea for non- agricultural activities.

11. Agri Infrastructure Fund

Rs. 1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) has been launched to provide medium to long term debt financing for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets through 3% interest subvention and Credit Guarantee support for loans upto Rs. 2 crore. As on date, 3055 projects of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies worth a loan amount of Rs. 2991 crore have been sanctioned by NABARD. 1134 Projects (other than PACs) worth Rs. 1155 Crore have already been approved by PMU for financing under the scheme.

Rs.286 crore have been sanctioned by banks for 276 projects.

12. Promotion of FPOs

Scheme for Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs launched with a total budgetary provision of Rs. 6865 Crore in February 2020.

13. A National Bee and Honey Mission (NBHM) has been launched in 2020 as part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Rs.500 crore for the period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 has been allocated for the sector.

14. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)

Per Drop more Crop component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY - PDMC) aims to increase water use efficiency at the farm level through precision micro irrigation technologies i.e. drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. Additional 51.54 lakh hectare area has been covered under micro irrigation from the year 2015-16 till date in the country. An amount of Rs. 13473.37 crore as central assistance has been provided to states under PMKSY since 2015-16.

15. Micro Irrigation Fund

A Micro Irrigation Fund of Rs 10000 crore has been placed with NABARD. In the Budget for 2021-22 the corpus of the fund has been increased to Rs.1000 crores. Projects worth Rs 3955.33 crore covering 12.79 lakh hectares have been approved.

16. Agricultural Mechanization

Agricultural mechanisation is extremely vital to modernise agriculture and reduce drudgery of farming operations. During the period from 2014-15 to 2020-21 an amount of Rs.4556.93 crore have been allocated for agricultural mechanisation. 1266844 numbers of machines and equipments have been provided to farmers on subsidy. 14182 custom hiring centers, 310 high-tech hubs and 13080 farm machinery banks have been established.

17. Changes in Disaster Relief Standards

- Major changes were made in disaster relief standards and assistance amount of all categories was increased by one and a half times.
- Earlier, compensation was payable only on crop loss of more than 50%. Compensation is now payable even if the loss is 33% only.
- The Ex-gratia payment to families of deceased victims of natural disasters has been increased from Rs.1.5 lakh to **Rs.4 lakh**.
- Admissibility of assistance has been increased from one hectare to two hectare.

18. Setting up of E-NAM extension Platform

- In 18 states and 03 UTs, 1000 markets have been integrated with the E-NAM Platform. In the Budget 2021-22 another 1000 mandis will be integrated with e-NAM.
- 1.69 crore farmers are registered on the platform as well as 1.52 lakh traders. A total volume of 4.12 crore metric tonnes for a total value of Rs. 1.22 lakh crore (as on 31.1.2021)

19. Improvement in farm produce logistics, Introduction of Kisan Rail.

- Kisan Rail has been launched to exclusively cater to movement of perishable agrihorti commodities. First rail was started in July 2020. Currently 10 Kisan Rails are being operated by Indian Railways.

20. Creation of a Start-up Eco system in agriculture and allied sector

452 start-ups in the agriculture and allied sectors have been selected for funding for a sum of Rs. 48.08 crore in instalments and Rs.20.90 crore has been released as a 1st instalment for funding these start-ups. These start-ups were trained for two months at various agribusiness incubation centres i.e. Knowledge Partners (KPs) &RKVY-RAFTAAR Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs).

21. Successful control of Two major Locust Attacks in the country in 2019-20 & 2020-21 by aggressively carrying out spraying including using drones for locust control.
