

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2743
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/03/2021

LOSS OF CROPS DUE TO EXCESSIVE RAINFALL

2743. SHRI NARAYAN RANE:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers' crops have been destroyed by excessive rainfall due to which the farmers have suffered immensely in some districts of Maharashtra, particularly in Dindori region of Nashik, in October-November, 2020;

(b) whether Government has assessed the loss due to the said excess rainfall and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has provided special aid or made arrangements to make up for the said loss and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)/State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF) already placed at their disposal in accordance with Government of India's approved items and norms. Additional assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per established procedure. The assistance approved under SDRF/SDRMF/NDRF norms is provided in the form of relief.

Excessive rain is not a calamity notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs. However, the State Governments are empowered to utilize up to 10 percent of the funds available under SDRF/SDRMF for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State and which are not included in the notified list of disasters of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. Hence, the issue of assessment of loss due to excess rainfall as a calamity does not arise.

However, the Government of India has introduced yield based “Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana” (PMFBY) and weather based “Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme” (WBCIS) from Kharif 2016 season to provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of natural calamities, adverse weather incidence and to stabilize income of farmers. Comprehensive risk insurance is provided under the scheme from pre-harvesting to post-harvest losses.

As per information provided by the State Government of Maharashtra, under PMFBY for Kharif 2020 season, the eligible claims due to excessive rain/unseasonal rainfall are as under:

| Taluka/District/State | Number of eligible claims | Eligible claim amount (Rs. in crore) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dindori Taluka | 82 | 0.048 |
| Nashik District | 48025 | 30.55 |
| Maharashtra State | 1277280 | 522.73 |
