

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-224
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05/08/2022

LEMON CULTIVATION IN ANDHRA PRADESH

*224. SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that excessive rainfall in November and December 2021 destroyed lemon yield in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to support farmers to combat the loss;
- (c) whether any Central compensation has been provided to the lemon growers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government is aware that due to lack of proper prices in the last three years, lemon growing farmers are avoiding its cultivation; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken to redress the situation and encourage lemon cultivation ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 224 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2022.

(a) to (d): The State Government is primarily responsible for providing necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of a severe nature and is approved on the basis of a Memorandum received from the State Government, in accordance with established procedures. In the wake of heavy rains in Andhra Pradesh during November 2021, the Central Government constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) for an on the spot assessment of damages. Based on the report of the IMCT and the recommendations of the Sub-Committee (SC-NEC), the High Level Committee (HLC) approved an amount of Rs.351.43 crore to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh from NDRF.

Further, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh was allocated Rs.1192.80 crore (Rs.895.20 crore as central share & Rs.297.60 crore as state share) under SDRF during 2021-22. Both the installments of central share were released to the State.

Accordingly, as per information received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, an amount of Rs.18.34 lakh to 126 sweet orange cultivating farmers and an amount of Rs. 27.20 lakh to 272 acid lime cultivating farmers was released in February 2022.

(e) & (f): The area under cultivation of lime crops (acid lime and sweet orange) has increased over the period of time in Andhra Pradesh. The area of acid lime increased from 38,234 Hectares in 2018-19 to 43,044 Hectares in 2020-21. Similarly, the area of Sweet Orange increased from 85,784 Hectares in 2018-19 to 1,10,970 Hectares in 2020-21. An area of 7705 Hectares has been covered under sweet orange & acid lime cultivation in Andhra Pradesh under the Area Expansion component of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme since 2016-17.
