

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 314
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22ND JULY, 2025

STUDIES ON FARMER SUICIDES

314. SHRI RAHUL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that chronic agrarian distress has contributed to an increase in farmer suicides across the country, if so, the details of farmer suicides in the country since 2020, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted or commissioned any studies or assessments to evaluate the causes of increasing farmer suicides and the extent of agrarian distress in different regions, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of any financial relief, compensation or rehabilitation packages provided to families of farmers who have committed suicide since 2020, State-wise;
- (d) the details of the steps taken to ensure timely disbursal of claims under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and other related schemes; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to provide a legally guaranteed Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). The report till 2022 is available on NCRB website (<https://ncrb.gov.in>). Reasons for suicide are not given in the report.

Agriculture is a State Subject. State Governments provide ex gratia or compensation as per State norms. Government of India supports the States through appropriate policy measures & budgetary allocation for schemes for the welfare of farmers. Schemes target increasing production, remunerative returns and income support to farmers. The Government has substantially enhanced the budget allocation of Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) from Rs. 21, 933.50 crore BE during 2013-14 to

Rs. 1,27,290.16 crore BE during 2025-26. Major schemes/ programmes initiated by DA&FW to enhance overall income of farmers and remunerative returns in the agriculture sector are as under:

1. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)
2. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana (PM-KMY)
3. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)/ Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS)
4. Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS)
5. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
6. Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs)
7. National Bee Keeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)
8. Namo Drone Didi
9. National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)
10. Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)
11. Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises' (AgriSURE)
12. Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)
13. Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM)
14. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
15. Soil Health & Fertility (SH&F)
16. Rainfed Area Development (RAD)
17. Agroforestry
18. Crop Diversification Programme (CDP)
19. Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)
20. Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSM)
21. National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM)
22. Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM)
23. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
24. National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Palm
25. National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oilseeds
26. Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region
27. Digital Agriculture Mission
28. National Bamboo Mission

(d): Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is implemented through the States wherein all the selection of insurance model, selection of Insurance Companies through transparent bidding process, enrollment of farmers, assessment of crop yield/crop loss for calculation of admissible claims etc. are carried out by the concerned State Government or Joint Committee of State Government officials and concerned insurance company. The roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder are defined in the Operational Guidelines of the scheme for the proper execution. Majority of the claims are settled within the stipulated timelines by the insurance companies.

Various steps to strengthen implementation of PMFBY and bring transparency and timely settlement of claims are:

- National Crop Insurance Portal (NCIP) has been developed as a single source of data ensuring subsidy payment, co-ordination, transparency, dissemination of information and delivery of services including direct online enrollment of farmers, uploading/obtaining individual insured farmer's details for better monitoring and to ensure transfer of claim electronically to the farmer's Bank Account.
- A dedicated module 'Digiclaim Module' has been operationalized for payment of claims from Kharif 2022 onwards. It involves integration of NCIP with Public Finance Management System (PFMS) and accounting system of Insurance Companies to provide timely & transparent processing of all claims w.e.f. Kharif 2024. In case payment is not made timely by Insurance Company, penalty of 12% is auto-calculated and levied through NCIP.
- Delinking of Central Government share of premium subsidy from that of State Governments has been implemented so that farmers can get proportionate claims relating to the Central Government share.

(e): Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for mandated crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) after considering the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/ Departments.

The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSPs at levels of one and half times of the cost of production. Accordingly, Government had consistently increased MSPs for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other Commercial crops with a minimum margin of 50 percent over all India weighted average cost of production from the year 2018-19 onwards.
