

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:122
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007
VARSHA BIMA YOJANA
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the main features of the Varsha Bima Yojana being run by the Union Government;
- (b) whether only the farmers of such areas can be benefited from this scheme which have the facilities to collect the rain related statistics;
- (c) if so, the States where the farmers have been deprived of the benefits of this scheme because of the non-availability of rain related statistics;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take any step to provide the benefit of the said scheme to all the farmers of all those selected States; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): Varsha Bima Yojana is not run by the Government of India. Varsha Bima is being run by the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) on its own on pilot basis. The main features of the scheme are as under:-

(i) The scheme is designed for specific crops where historical evidence shows that the yield of these crops is strongly correlated to rainfall.

(ii) The scheme provided three coverage options:

Sowing failure Insurance (SFI) covering deficit rainfall sowing period.

Seasonal Rainfall Insurance (SRI) covering rainfall during the entire crop season.

Vegetative Phase Insurance covering the period (from 16th August to 31st October/30th November).

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The scheme can be implemented only in those areas where historical yield data of last 10 to 15 years and rainfall data for a period of at least 30 years are available. During Kharif 2006 season scheme was implemented in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Uttranchal, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In rest of the States/UTs., the scheme was not implemented so farmers in these areas could not avail the benefits of the scheme.

(d): There is no proposal under consideration of the Government, at present.

(e): Does not arise.