

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 231**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019

**STUDY OF AREAS FACING AGRARIAN CRISIS**

231. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the areas of the country facing agriculture related crisis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the result of the same; and
- (c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to promote the use of modern technology in agriculture in order to solve the agricultural crisis and ensure continuous growth in the agriculture sector?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Taking cognizance of the problem of Agrarian distress and consequent farmers suicide in the country, Government had undertaken a study "Farmers Suicide in India: Causes and Policy Prescription" as an all India coordinated study in the work plan 2016-17 through the Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru. The study covered 13 states of the country which included Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

The study concluded that frequent crop failure due to vagaries of monsoon, absence of assured water resources and attack of pest and diseases are the most important causes of farmers' distress. The study had made inter-alia following suggestions to address the above problems:

- (a) Bringing individual farmers under the ambit of crop insurance;
- (b) Judicious use of available water is required;
- (c) Government intervention through MSP covering cost of production plus reasonable profit margin;
- (d) Risk hedging through crop and enterprise diversification should be encouraged to reduce farmers' distress aiming at sustainable income; and
- (e) Regulate informal credit market.

The Government has launched various schemes to cater for the above suggested recommendations namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY), Increase in Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif & Rabi Crops, Har Med Par Ped, Bee-Keeping, Rashtriya Gokul Mission, Blue Revolution, Interest Subvention Scheme, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), etc.

(c): The Government has taken various steps to promote the use of modern technology in agriculture in order to solve the agricultural crisis and ensure continuous growth in the agriculture sector. Some of the interventions in this direction are :

- (i) Creation of a network of 681 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to facilitate farmer's access to knowledge and information generated by Agricultural Universities and ICAR Institutes of the country.
- (ii) Initiatives under Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme like Extension Reforms, Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension, Kisan Call Centres, Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres, Exhibitions/ Fairs etc.
- (iii) Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)
- (iv) Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi
- (v) National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme
- (vi) Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme
- (vii) Per Drop More Crop (PDMC)

\*\*\*\*\*