

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1461
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/12/2023

LOSS OF AGRICULTURAL CROPS DUE TO UNSEASONAL RAINS AND HAILSTORM

1461. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that large areas of land under cultivation in different parts of the country was adversely affected due to unseasonal rains and hailstorm in the month of November, 2023;
- (b) whether Government has made any assessment about the loss of agricultural crops in different States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has provided any compensation/relief to the affected farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (e): 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 severe nature, as per the established procedures. No State Government has submitted any Memorandum seeking financial assistance from NDRF for hailstorm during the current financial year, so far.

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 the farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of natural calamities, adverse weather incidence and to stabilize the income of the farmers. Comprehensive risk insurance is provided under the scheme from pre-sowing to post-harvest losses. Under this Scheme, the claims are paid to only those farmers who have insured their crops and paid their share of premium under any of the notified crop insurance scheme in the notified area/crop by the State Government. The scheme is optional for the States/Union Territories.
