

Government of India  
Ministry of Finance  
Department of Financial Services

**RAJYA SABHA**

Starred Question No. \*96

Answered on Tuesday, December 12, 2023/ 21 Agrahayana, 1945 (Saka)

**WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SMALL FARMERS AND PEOPLE WORKING IN  
UNORGANIZED SECTOR**

\*96 # Shri Mithlesh Kumar:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures taken by Government to facilitate access to credit facilities by small farmers in the country;
- (b) the details of initiatives taken to provide social security to individuals, especially those working in unorganized sector; and
- (c) the schemes run by Government for small farmers and people working in unorganized sector and the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE FINANCE MINISTER  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. \*96 to be answered on 12.12.2023 regarding Welfare schemes for small farmers and people working in unorganized sector by Shri Mithlesh Kumar:**

(a): The measures taken by Government to facilitate access to credit facilities by small farmers are as follows:

**(i) Specific Target for Agriculture in Priority Sector Lending:**

As per RBI mandated priority sector lending targets, banks are required to lend 18% of previous years' Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure (CEOBE), whichever is higher, to agriculture, and within that 10% to for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs).

**(ii) Kisan Credit Card Scheme:**

The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme ensures easy credit access for various farmer categories, including owner cultivators, tenant farmers, sharecroppers, and more. As on 30.06.2023, there are total 7.36 crore operative KCC accounts with an outstanding amount of Rs. 8.86 lakh crore.

**(iii) Interest Subvention Scheme:**

Concessional interest rates are being offered to farmers for loans up to ₹3 lakh for short-term crop and allied activity loans through KCC during 2022-23 and 2023-24. The applicable lending rate to farmers and the rate of interest subvention for the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 is 7% and 1.5% per annum respectively.

**(iv) In relation to (iii), additional 3% prompt repayment incentive (PRI)** is also given to the farmers for prompt and timely repayment of loans; thus, reducing the effective rate of interest to 4% per annum, subject to a maximum period of one year from the date of disbursement.

**(v) Collateral-Free Agricultural Loans:**

RBI vide Circular dated February 7, 2019 raised the limit for collateral-free agriculture loans from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 1.6 lakh.

**(vi) Simplification of Lending Procedures:**

RBI vide circular dated August 26, 2008 has advised banks to dispense with the requirement of 'no dues' certificate for small loans up to Rs. 50,000 to small and marginal farmers, share-croppers and the like and, instead, obtain alternate documentation or affidavits for loans to landless laborers, sharecroppers, tenant farmers, and oral lessees.

**(vii) Farmers' Producer Organisation (FPO):**

Government of India launched Central Sector Scheme titled 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)' to create and support 10,000 new FPOs in 2021. NABARD is helping these FPOs grow by supporting them with funds like the Producers' Organisation Development and Upliftment Corpus Fund (PRODUCE) and Producer Organisation Development Fund (PODF).

**(viii) Joint Liability Groups:**

Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) help tenant/landless farmers and non-farm workers get loans without needing to offer collateral (like assets).

**(ix) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):**

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was introduced to provide comprehensive risk coverage for crops against all non-preventable natural risks from pre-sowing to post-harvest stages at minimum premium.

(b) & (c): The details as available with this department are as follows:

- (i) Atal Pension Yojna (APY):** The APY is focused on providing financial security by way of pension during old age to the unorganized sector workers in India. As on 15.11.2023, there are 5.93 crores subscribers in the scheme with an overall corpus of Rs. 29,136 crores.
- (ii) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojna (PMJJBY):** Provides life insurance cover of Rs.2 lakh for death due to any reason. As on 15.11.2023, there are 18.51 crores enrolments that have taken place under the scheme. A total of 7,16,137 claims have been paid amounting to Rs. 14,322.74 crores.
- (iii) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojna (PMSBY):** Provides accidental Insurance cover of Rs. 2 lakh payable in case of death / total disability; and Rs. 1 Lakh in case of partial disability.
- (iv) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana (PMKMY):** The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana (PMKMY) scheme launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in September 2019, is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for the entry age group of 18 to 40 years with a provision of Rs. 3000/- monthly pension on attaining the age of 60 years, subject to exclusion criteria. The Scheme aims to create a social security net for all small and marginal farmers as old age would result in loss of livelihood for most of them.
- (v) Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana (PM-SYM):** In order to provide old age protection to unorganised sector workers, the Government of India had launched PM-SYM in 2019 to provide a monthly pension of Rs. 3000/- after attaining the age of 60 years to unorganized workers.
- (vi) National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons (NPS-Traders):** Launched in 2019, the National Pension Scheme for traders is a voluntary and contributory pension initiative which aims at providing a monthly minimum assured pension of Rs. 3000/- upon reaching the age of 60 for traders, shopkeepers, and self-employed persons.
- (vii) eShram Portal:** Ministry of Labour & Employment has also launched eShram portal on 26.08.2021. The main objective of the eShram portal is to create a national database of unorganised workers and to facilitate delivery of Social Security and welfare Schemes to such workers.

State-wise details of Subscribers/Enrollment under above-mentioned Social Security Schemes as available with this department may be seen at Annexure I.

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## Annexure I

State-wise details of Subscribers/Enrollment under above-mentioned Social Security Schemes are given in table below:

State	PMJJBY as on 15.11.2023	PMSBY as on 15.11.2023	APY as on 31.10.2023	PM-SYM as on 04.12.2023	PMKMY as on 29.11.2023
Andaman And Nicobar Islands	61,145	123,298	10,322	2,344	522
Andhra Pradesh	10,364,432	24,125,718	29,88,393	1,70,671	37,429
Arunachal Pradesh	171,155	319,385	25,651	2,923	2,416
Assam	3,557,046	9,776,219	13,78,887	40,517	14,451
Bihar	10,948,478	26,090,177	52,11,120	2,17,757	3,44,269
Chandigarh	115,772	361,643	59,081	4,348	531
Chhattisgarh	4,917,303	12,018,996	10,42,207	2,30,938	2,03,303
Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman n Diu	119,782	216,877	33,851	1,611	407
Delhi	1,989,847	5,202,987	7,53,743	10,406	414
Goa	293,605	597,073	86,954	1,983	264
Gujarat	7,000,935	15,551,681	21,66,793	3,88,908	67,898
Haryana	3,466,276	8,719,613	13,13,568	8,25,158	4,32,541
Himachal Pradesh	850,046	2,449,494	4,46,529	47,576	4,373
Jammu And Kashmir	675,772	1,657,689	1,79,861	74,361	1,26,537
Jharkhand	5,054,586	11,372,567	17,05,605	1,36,068	2,52,773
Karnataka	8,471,865	18,534,623	34,47,129	1,35,145	41,683
Kerala	2,003,172	8,910,820	10,96,964	15,573	1,518
Ladakh	22,692	46,318	5,315	1,434	2
Lakshadweep	5,077	15,338	2,162	21	72
Madhya Pradesh	10,777,615	28,342,910	34,14,581	1,79,447	1,22,572
Maharashtra	12,812,279	30,003,121	53,98,764	6,07,436	80,937
Manipur	185,888	423,752	49,862	5,791	712
Meghalaya	352,427	681,239	54,444	5,758	836
Mizoram	237,374	378,644	18,811	1,157	305
Nagaland	163,297	372,781	29,945	4,971	1,180
Odisha	6,303,133	16,479,788	21,27,315	1,85,574	1,57,670
Puducherry UT	155,835	388,877	80,226	5,910	245
Punjab	3,338,133	10,129,780	16,88,732	58,506	14,605
Rajasthan	8,517,813	20,463,128	30,90,847	1,30,055	41,696
Sikkim	106,384	215,362	33,635	326	35
Tamil Nadu	7,223,941	19,132,733	39,64,841	67,454	1,10,450
Telangana	6,313,523	14,133,537	19,26,898	42,393	10,582
Tripura	389,864	1,114,307	1,94,935	33,289	928
Uttar Pradesh	19,399,033	56,367,271	96,62,270	6,74,799	2,52,778
Uttarakhand	1,190,629	4,064,684	6,59,821	39,239	2,490
West Bengal	9,058,877	25,360,362	44,54,592	1,12,854	8,885
Others*	38,456,132	35,916,806	-	-	-

\*Indicates enrollments under erstwhile existing schemes which were clubbed under PMJJBY or PMSBY Schemes and those enrolled by Rural Cooperative Banks & Urban Cooperative Banks.

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