

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:309
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE SCHEME
DUKHA BHAGAT;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have reviewed the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) since the scheme has caused harm instead of benefits to the farmers;
- (b) if so, the shortcomings identified in this regard;
- (c) whether the prevalent corruption among employees and officers is one of the shortcomings;
- (d) if so, whether the Government propose to improvise the said scheme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure benefits to the farmers by removing these shortcomings?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.309 DUE FOR REPLY ON 15TH APRIL, 2002.

(a): The review of the scheme is under process. The scheme has benefited about 39 lakh farmers who have been paid compensation of Rs.1207 crore approx. so far. The scheme has, therefore, been beneficial to the farmers.

(b): Some States/UTs have expressed their reservations regarding sharing of financial liabilities between the Central and State Governments, maintenance of Corpus Fund, undertaking of more number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) or account of reduction in the unit area of insurance to Gram Panchayat level, absence of ceiling limit on sum insured, phasing out of premia subsidy to small and marginal farmers, non coverage of perennial horticultural crops etc.

(c): No Sir, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is a multi-agency scheme in which financial institutions/banks and various departments of State/UT Governments are involved, besides the Implementing Agency. No instances of corruption among the employees and officers have been reported so far by any State Government/Union Territory.

(d)&(e): The review of the scheme is under process.

(f): On the basis of suggestions and the feedback received from the States/farming communities review of NAIS is under process with a view to removing shortcomings in the existing scheme.