

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:160  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE SCHEME  
RAM PRASAD SINGH

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government propose a new National Crops Insurance Scheme to mitigate the hardships of the farmers of the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the new crop insurance scheme;
- (c) whether the Government propose `Village` as a unit in the new scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.160 TO BE ANSWERED ON 2N AUGUST, 2000 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): Yes, Sir. A new Crop Insurance Scheme known as National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has already been implemented from Rabi 1999-2000 season.

(b): Salient features of the new Scheme are as under:-

- i) Coverage of all farmers including share croppers and tenants.
- ii) Coverage of annual commercial/horticultural crops, besides food crops and oilseeds.
- iii) Farmers have option to select the sum insured as high as 150% of average yield.
- iv) Assessment of crop losses on individual basis for localised calamities to be experimented in a few areas.
- v) Premium rates in respect of food crops and oilseeds may range from 2.5% to 3.5% during Kharif and 1.5% to 2.0% during Rabi or actuarial rates whichever is less. In respect of annual commercial/horticultural crops, premium will be charged based on actuarial rates.
- vi) Small & Marginal farmers will be eligible for subsidy in premium to the extent of 50% which would be phased out over a period of five years.

(c) to (e): The new scheme envisages that each participating State/UT is required to reach the level of Gram Panchayat as unit of insurance within a period of three years. However, Department is reviewing the scheme to reach this goal earlier.