

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:441

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE SCHEME

Jagannath Dr. M.;Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of farmers benefited under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in the country including Gujarat during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the targets fixed and achieved thereunder during the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans, State-wise including Gujarat;
- (c) whether the farmers have not been able to reap the benefits of the NAIS;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure that the benefit of the above scheme reaches the farmers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(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. 441 DUE FOR REPLY ON 04-08-2009.

(a): State-wise details (including Gujarat) of total number of farmers who have been paid claims under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in the country during last three years is at Annexure-I. The details for the current year have not been compiled so far.

(b): The scheme is demand driven, therefore, no targets are fixed under the scheme. However, the achievements made in terms of farmers covered, area covered, sum insured, premium received etc. during Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans are given in Annexure-II.

(c) & (d): The farmers are benefited in the areas/States where the scheme is being implemented. About 190 lakhs farmers have been covered under the scheme in 2008-09, and 46.55 lakhs farmers have been paid the claim amount under the scheme. However, during the course of implementation of the scheme, some constraints like larger unit area of insurance, low indemnity level, calculation of threshold yield, inadequate coverage of risks etc. have been observed.

A Joint Group was constituted by Government of India, to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. The Group has reviewed the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and made important recommendations. Based on these recommendations a proposal on Modified NAIS has been prepared.

(e) & (f): The number of farmers covered under the scheme has been continuously increasing over the years. To ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach the farmers, Government of India has taken various steps like issuance of administrative instructions to all the States/UTs with details of terms of implementation of the scheme and make adequate budgetary provision. At State level, State Level Coordination Committee on Crop Insurance (SLCCCI) reviews the implementation of the scheme at the end of every crop season.

For better awareness about the scheme and to expand its coverage, particularly for non-loanee farmers, publicity campaigns both in print and electronic media through States/implementing agency is carried out.