

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3285
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
NATIONAL AGRICULTURE INSURANCE SCHEME
Das Shri Bhakta Charan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several State Governments including Orissa have given suggestions for further improving the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to include some more crops under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. During the course of implementation of the scheme implementing States/UTs including Orissa State have given various suggestions, from time to time, about unit area of insurance, indemnity level, calculation of guaranteed yield, early settlement of claims, coverage of horticultural crops etc. for making the scheme more acceptable to farmers.

Keeping in view the suggestions of States/UTs, a Joint Group was constituted by the Government, 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 which inter-alia includes reduction in the unit area of insurance for major crops; improved method of calculation of threshold yield; higher indemnity level; coverage of additional risks etc. Based on these recommendations a proposal on Modified NAIS has been prepared.

(c) & (d): National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), at present, covers all food crops (cereals, millets, pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops. As per provision of the scheme, State Governments are free to notify any number of crops from the above broad categories of crops subject to the availability of past yield data for adequate number of years and capacity of the State to conduct requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) for making assessment of yield.