

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2031
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013
WEATHER BASED INSURANCE SCHEME
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has publicised/advertised the Weather based Insurance Scheme for the upcoming rabi season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the other schemes with which the farmers can cover the risk for the upcoming rabi season; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to popularise these schemes adequately so that maximum farmers can get benefits of these schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) to (d): With the aim to provide insurance coverage and financial support to farmers for losses in their crop yield, Government of India (GOI) has been implementing various crop insurance schemes since 1985. These schemes are improved to make more farmer friendly from time to time based on evaluation studies, experience gained through implementation and feed-back of the stakeholders. Recently, various improvements/changes have been made in yield index based Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), weather index based Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) & crop specific based Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) and a new central sector scheme in the name of 'National Crop Insurance Programme' (NCIP) has been introduced by merging MNAIS, WBCS & CPIS throughout the country from Rabi 2013-14.

Continued efforts are made to create awareness about crop insurance schemes including WBCIS by the implementing agencies in coordination with implementing States. The salient activities under awareness campaign, involve the publicity of features & benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets, participation in agriculture fairs/mela/gosti and organization of workshops/trainings and SMS through Kisan Portal etc.