GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1733 ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014 CROP INSURANCE SCHEME Chautala Shri Dushyant;Khadse Smt. Raksha Nikhil;Patil Shri A.T. (Nana);Singh Shri Sunil Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going crop insurance schemes in the country and crop varieties included under this scheme;

(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate a fresh crop insurance scheme in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is planning to increase the scope of crop insurance schemes by including newer crops under this scheme and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is also contemplating any change in the terms and conditions to make crop insurance schemes more farmer friendly and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government has received complaints from Maharashtra for non payment of compensation to the farmers and if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (c): A National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP), which comprises of Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS), has been approved by the Government for implementation w.e.f. Rabi 2013-14. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) was to be rolled back simultaneously. However, based on representations from some States, NAIS was allowed to such States for implementation during Rabi 2013-14. Again, all State Governments/UT Administrations have been given the option to implement either NAIS or MNAIS for the year 2014-15.

State Governments can notify various food crops, oil seeds and commercial/horticultural crops for coverage under insurance, in respect of which past yield data/weather data is available for specified number of years, minimum crop area etc.

(b) & (d): Improving upon the features of existing insurance schemes is a continuing process. Based on the recommendations of evaluation studies, experience gained and views of various stakeholders, the existing insurance product viz. National Crop Insurance Programme was formulated and approved for implementation from Rabi 2013-14 onwards.

(e): Affected farmers of Jalgaon and Jalna Districts of Maharashtra had represented about non-payment of claims against damages suffered in respect of Banana and Sweet Lime crops covered under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme for Rabi 2012-13 season. Concerned insurance companies have been asked by Government to settle claims of the affected farmers on the basis of wind speed data as recorded by the notified Reference Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs).