

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:241
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014
CROP LOSS DUE TO NATURAL CALAMITIES
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether agriculture profession is waning in the country due to various natural calamities; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide crop insurance to such farmers in case of natural calamities, crop-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a): No, Madam. As per Census conducted by the Registrar General of India, the total number of agricultural workers, comprising cultivators and agricultural labourers, increased from 234.1 million in 2001 to 263.1 million in 2011.

(b): To protect the yield losses in crops due to non-preventable causes, including natural calamities and adverse weather conditions, Government has been implementing four crop insurance schemes namely, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) from Rabi 1999-2000, Pilot Modified NAIS(MNAIS) from Rabi 2010-11, Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) from Kharif 2007 and Pilot Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) from 2009-10. These have now been restructured as a more farmer- friendly scheme: 'National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP)', consisting of three components: (i) Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), (ii) Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and (iii) Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) throughout the country from Rabi 2013-14.

These schemes are voluntary for States/UTs. The schemes/components are available for all the food crops (cereals, millets and pulses), oil seeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops.