

16. PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJNA

Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana, which is a path breaking scheme for farmers' welfare. There will be a uniform premium of only 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi crops. In case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium to be paid by farmers will be only 5%. The premium rates to be paid by farmers are very low and balance premium will be borne by the State and Central Government to provide full insured amount to the farmers against crop loss on account of natural calamities. There is no upper limit on Government subsidy. Earlier, there was a provision of capping the premium rate which resulted in low claims being paid to farmers. This capping was done to limit Government outgo on the premium subsidy. This capping has now been removed and farmers will get claim against full sum insured without any reduction. The use of technology will be encouraged to a great extent. Smart phones will be used to capture and upload data of crop cutting to reduce the delays in claim payment to farmers. Remote sensing will be used to reduce the number of crop cutting experiments.

The following stages of crop and risks leading to crop loss are covered under the scheme:-

- a. **Prevented Sowing/Planting Risk:** Insured area is prevented from sowing/planting due to deficit rainfall or adverse seasonal conditions.
- b. **Standing crop (Sowing to Harvesting):** Comprehensive risk insurance is provided to cover yield losses due to non-preventable risks, viz. Drought, Dry spells, Flood, Inundation, pests and Diseases, Landslides, Natural Fire and Lightening, Storm, Hailstorm, Cyclone, Typhoon, Tempest, Hurricane and Tornado.
- c. **Post-Harvest Losses:** coverage is available only upto a maximum period of two weeks from harvesting for those crops which are allowed to dry in cut and spread condition in the field after harvesting against specific perils of cyclone and cyclonic rains and unseasonal rains.

- d. Localized Calamities:** Loss/damage resulting from occurrence of identified localized risks of hailstorm, landslide and inundation affecting isolated farms in the notified area.

- e. General exclusions:** Losses arising out of war and nuclear risks, malicious damage and other preventable risks shall be excluded.

Govt. of India also gives the option to State Govt. to implement Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme simultaneously on the crop and area suitable for Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme. In which deficit, excess and unseasonal rainfall, temperature, wind speed, consecutive dry days are covered. Hailstorm are exclude under the scheme and available on add on basis. After a deliberate discussion State Govt. decide to implement both the scheme in all over the State.