

**QUESTION DETAILS**

MINISTRY OF : AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 18  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019  
Insurance cover for betel cultivation

18. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that almost 10 million people in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Karnataka depend on betel cultivation;
- (b) if so, whether the betel growing farmers are not getting benefit of the crop insurance scheme as the cultivation of betel has not been accorded the status of agriculture;
- (c) if so, whether Government is planning to accord the status of agriculture to betel cultivation, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other welfare measures taken by Government for the communities depending on betel cultivation in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a): There is no official estimate of the number of people depending on betel cultivation or the area and production of Betelvine in the country.
- (b) & (c): All food, oilseed and commercial/Horticultural crops are covered under crop insurance schemes of the Government viz. yield based Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS).

Betelvine is a Horticultural crop. For availing the benefit of the crop insurance scheme, States have to notify the crop. Karnataka and West Bengal have notified it under RWBCIS. In Bihar, the Department of Disaster Management is providing compensation for this crop, if any damage takes place due to unforeseen circumstances.

(d): Developmental programmes for promotion of Betelvine are being implemented by Central as well as State Governments.

? In Uttar Pradesh, the State Government is promoting Betelvine cultivation under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and their own scheme. Under RKVY, 50% subsidy (upto Rs. 25,226) is given for Bareja construction cost upto 500 Square Metre. Under the State Government scheme, 50% subsidy (upto Rs. 75,680) is provided for Bareja construction upto 1500 Square Metre.

? In Karnataka, under RKVY scheme for Rejuvenation of Betelvine crop, Rs. 20,000/hectare subsidy was provided during 2016-17.

? The Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), is implementing programmes for quality planting material production in association with State Agricultural Universities and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes.

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