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Performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat

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Abstract

There has been significant reduction in the relative share of the agriculture sector in net state domestic product in the recent past whereas; the contribution of service sector has been increasing constantly. This indicates the shift from the agrarian economy towards a service dominated one. More importantly, the decrease in the share of agriculture sector to net state domestic product of the country has not been accompanied by matching reduction in the share of agriculture sector in employment. About 48.9 percent workforce is engaged in farming. Agriculture sector is vulnerable and this vulnerability in agriculture is due to excessive dependence upon climatic factors which affect the production of crops and further income of the farmers. Crop insurance can be effective tool to reduce the uncertainty in agriculture. The various agriculture insurance schemes have introduced in India after independence. This paper has analysed the performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in India as well as in Gujarat. The highest number of farmers who have insured their crops and number of beneficiaries was from Maharashtra whereas the highest area insured, gross premium and amount of claims was paid to Madhya Pradesh under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. In Gujarat the total number of farmers who have insured their crops under this scheme till the kharif season 2017 was 774927 and the amount of claims approved was Rs. 100056.04 lakh. Among the different districts of Gujarat, Rajkot has the highest number of farmers who have insured their crops, area insured, sum insured and highest amount of gross premium was also paid to Rajkot whereas, none of the farmers from Surat and Tapi has insured their crops.

Keyword: Agriculture Sector, Crop Failure, Crop Insurance and Financial Support.



Introduction

Agriculture sector is crucial for many developing countries across the world for its perceived ability to contribute significantly to achieve developmental objectives such as employment generation, economic growth, food security, environmental sustainability and poverty reduction. In India, the agriculture provides employment to millions of people in the rural areas therefore, the growth and development of this sector is important for the policy makers.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the rural economy in India. At the time of independence the agriculture was in hopeless condition. The farmers were in heavy debt to the village money-lenders. Agriculture was carried for subsistence basis only. Although the income of the farmers increased after the introduction of green revolution yet a significant proportion of the gross income of the farmers is ploughed back into agriculture due to the use of new inputs such as high yielding variety of seeds, chemical, fertilizers and irrigation (Shah and Aggrawal 1970). The expenditure on the production of crop is increasing due to use of these costly inputs. Farmers have to spend huge amounts of cash on purchasing of farm inputs and machinery to carry out their production operations. Farmers need credit for carrying out the cultivation as well as for subsistence. Therefore, farmers borrow year after year yet they are not in a position to clear off the loans mainly due to crop failure (Tewari, 1969). India has been suffered from crop losses almost every year either due to drought or flood or frost/extreme temperatures since the last decade. Due to crop failure farmers are unable to repay the loan they have taken earlier further they need more credit to purchase the inputs for the next crop, in this way the indebtedness among the famers increasing. According to the 70th round of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), significant proportion of farmer households has been trapped to indebtedness i.e., 52 per cent of farm households are indebted and the average amount per indebted household is Rs. 47000. The indebtedness among the farmers is increasing mainly due to the crop failure and farmers are taking extreme steps to end their lives. Increasing incidence of farmers' suicides due to successive crop failures has alerted the policy makers to take crop insurance seriously in India (Girdziute and Slavickiene, 2012).

Crop insurance as a risk management tool is being widely adopted by developed countries. Crop insurance schemes are helpful to the farmers for providing financial security to them. Developed countries have a variety of government-supported, agriculture-related insurance schemes. Whereas, Indian farmers generally rely on the informal arrangements like, diversification of crops, entering into share-cropping arrangements and favouring traditional practices over modern techniques. Such arrangements are not gainful in mitigating the risks as efficiently as formal arrangements (Ullah et.al., 2016).

However, the crop insurance schemes have been introduced in India to provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests and diseases. Initially the crop insurance schemes were based on individual approach i.e. the indemnity was paid to each individual separately by ascertaining the crop output of each individual and now the crop insurance schemes are based on area approach i.e. the indemnity



is paid to the farmers by ascertain the crop output of homogeneous area. Earlier the defined area i.e. the insurance unit was at block level and now the insurance unit is reduced to the village level. The list of crops being covered under insurance differs from state to state. Generally quite a few Kharif and Rabi season crops are covered (GOI, 2017-18).

Objectives

The main objectives of this paper are:

1. To examine the growth and performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in India.
2. To examine the growth and performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat

Methodology

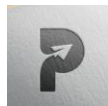
The paper is based on secondary data. The secondary data has taken from different reports of Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, cooperation and farmer's Welfare. The statistical tool i.e. percentage has been used. This paper is divided into two sections, section I deals with performance of national agriculture insurance scheme and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in India and section II deals with performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat.

Section I

Performance of National Agriculture Insurance Scheme in India

The national agriculture insurance scheme was initiated in 1999, by the government of India. This scheme was based on indexed based approach, where the index used was crop yield of given area called as insurance unit. For the payment of indemnity the actual yield was compared with the threshold yield and the indemnity was paid to the farmers in case the actual yield was less than the threshold yield. This scheme was implemented in all the states of India except Punjab, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh (Selvaraj, 2015).

The state wise performance of national agriculture insurance scheme has been shown in the table 1. The table reveals that the highest number of farmers who have insured their crops was from Maharashtra i.e. 48347904 followed by Madhya Pradesh (41258600), Andhra Pradesh (30498889), Uttar Pradesh (23426012), Odisha (19869088) and Gujarat (15494171). The lowest number can be seen in Mizoram i.e., 121 farmers who have insured their crops followed by Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar and Goa. The highest area insured can be seen in Madhya Pradesh i.e. 97860999.94 hectares, followed by Andhra Pradesh (46196802.77 hectares), Maharashtra (38422588.10 hectares) and Gujarat (35190624.63 hectares). In case of Mizoram the area insured was minimum i.e. 133.79 hectares only. On the other hand, sum insured was highest in Uttar Pradesh i.e. 33537824.49 followed

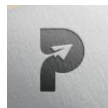


by Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat i.e. Rs. 9080309.59 lakh, Rs. 6459243.53 lakh and Rs. 4930466.40 lakh respectively. The lowest sum insured can be seen in Mizoram i.e. Rs. 23.24 lakh. The highest gross premium was paid by Odisha i.e. Rs. 8975373.09 lakh followed by Madhya Pradesh (Rs. 214278.05 lakh), Gujarat (Rs. 202671.80 lakh), Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 186171.33 lakh) and Maharashtra (Rs. 163204.61 lakh) whereas, the lowest amount of gross premium was paid by Mizoram i.e. Rs. 0.58 lakh. The highest amount of claims was paid to Gujarat i.e. Rs. 841185.84 lakh followed by Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Bihar i.e. Rs. 536606.18 lakh, Rs. 488855.21 lakh, Rs. 473513.76 lakh and Rs. 306123.35 lakh respectively. On the other hand, the lowest amount of claims was paid to Sikkim followed by Goa, Mizoram and Tripura. The highest number of farmers benefitted was from Maharashtra i.e. 14970986 followed by Madhya Pradesh (7684185), Andhra Pradesh (6897943), Gujarat (5593245) and Karnataka (5223118). The number of beneficiaries was lowest from Sikkim i.e. 86 followed by Mizoram, Goa, Andaman and Nicobar and Tripura. The highest number of farmers insured their crops as well as the number of beneficiaries was from Maharashtra while, the highest amount of claims was paid to Gujarat.

Table 1 State Wise Performance of National Agriculture Insurance Scheme in India from 1999 to 2015

(Amount in Rs. Lakh)

State	No. of farmers covered	Area insured (Hectares)	Sum insured	Premium	Claims	No. of Farmers benefitted
Andhra Pradesh	30498889	46196802.77	6459243.53	186171.33	488855.21	6897943
Assam	422654	309482.42	90821.88	2530.74	1687.30	65963
Bihar	9271653	10405015.89	2310359.54	53692.51	306123.35	3277833
Chhattisgarh	11728099	23376652.42	1481710.91	37696.93	39967.48	1712134
Goa	8211	13440.13	318.12	5.65	2.36	702
Gujarat	15494171	35190624.63	4930466.40	202671.80	841185.84	5593245
Haryana	635778	769038.32	83496.10	2413.98	4336.39	129424
Himachal Pradesh	362700	284370.70	74054.75	1589.93	1828.78	108562
Jharkhand	6877479	4203916.99	44550.07	10926.64	52466.07	2188050
Karnataka	14013046	22102882.88	1937544.06	56355.23	194943.65	5223118
Kerala	461282	414760.68	87165.63	1881.59	3062.82	85470
Madhya Pradesh	41258600	97860999.94	9080309.59	214278.05	536606.18	7684185
Maharashtra	48347904	38422588.10	3684790.57	163204.61	473513.76	14970986
Manipur	35645	5747.71	14812.25	368.73	1226.20	29932
Meghalaya	35694	35677.99	7179.85	313.08	68.46	3600
Mizoram	121	133.79	23.24	0.58	11.23	119



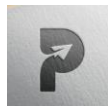
Orissa	19869088	19360765.87	3575373.09	8975373.09	209443.56	3233725
Rajasthan	15058674	31379980.35	1620309.00	45754.35	262165.99	5200566
Sikkim	1924	1361.87	267.90	4.32	1.28	86
Tamil Nadu	7349888	9449547.79	2186541.72	57726.61	296868.98	2840476
Telangana	10441314	1208024.17	528333.89	15861.38	2204.19	53591
Tripura	20709	13752.03	3160.11	87.07	58.31	3432
Uttar Pradesh	23426012	31070385.59	33537824.49	68482.01	116937.52	4517617
Uttarkhand	399156	372508.94	87097.93	1978.13	4188.31	119370
West Bengal	14133404	6999579.84	1809289.61	84636.87	137087.74	3042905
Andaman and Nicobar	4282	6579.18	2177.43	60.64	115.22	944
Puducherry	41984	58341.54	1150.12	214.46	316.95	7269
Jammu and Kashmir	49065	68994.99	10902.23	213.80	126.42	4492
Grand Total	260847426	379633682	43875132	1298862	3975400	66995819

Source: Annual Report of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmer's Welfare 2016-17

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

This scheme was introduced during the Kharif season 2015, based on area approach. The insurance unit (defined area) is reduced to the village level. The crops covered under the scheme are food crops, oilseeds, horticultural and commercial crops. The risk covered under the scheme are yield losses of standing crop on the notified area, prevented sowing, post harvest losses and localized calamities (Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited, 2018-19).

The performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana from the kharif season 2016 to rabi 2017-18 has been shown in table 2. The table reveals that the highest number of farmers who have insured their crops was from Maharashtra i.e. 7966673 followed by Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal i.e. 7887705, 7195150, 6045246 and 1803686 respectively. Whereas, the Gujarat has 11th rank with 774927 farmers. The number of farmers who have insured their crops was the lowest in Meghalaya i.e. 26 followed by Sikkim, Puducherry, Manipur and Tripura. The highest area insured can be seen in Madhya Pradesh i.e. 13365566.11 hectares, Rajasthan (6891198.85 hectares), Uttar Pradesh (5314150.91 hectares), Maharashtra (4282664.92 hectares) and Karnataka (1253054.5 hectares). Gujarat has 7th rank with 1133760.32 hectares of land insured under the scheme. The area insured was the lowest in Meghalaya i.e. 16 hectares followed by Sikkim, Puducherry and Tripura. The highest sum insured can be seen in Madhya Pradesh i.e. Rs. 4251420.22 lakh followed by Uttar Pradesh (Rs. 2336920.77 lakh), Rajasthan (Rs. 1388422.93 lakh), Maharashtra (Rs. 1366411.77 lakh) and Bihar (Rs. 604356.51 lakh). Gujarat has 8th rank with Rs. 541116.06 lakh. The lowest sum insured can be seen in Meghalaya i.e. Rs. 18 lakh followed by Sikkim, Puducherry and Tripura. The highest amount of gross premium was paid by Madhya Pradesh i.e. Rs. 416776.4 lakh followed by Maharashtra (Rs. 277343.32 lakh), Rajasthan (Rs. 171569.03 lakh), Gujarat (Rs. 139926.57 lakh) and



Tamil Nadu (Rs. 113167.99 lakh). The lowest amount can be seen in Meghalaya i.e. Rs. 1 lakh followed by Sikkim, Tripura, Puducherry and Assam. The highest amount of claims was paid to Madhya Pradesh i.e. Rs. 382871.04 lakh followed by Maharashtra (Rs. 230842.75 lakh), Tamil Nadu (Rs. 133748.61 lakh), Rajasthan (Rs. 113590.39 lakh) and Gujarat (Rs. 100056.04 lakh). There was no amount of claims paid to Meghalaya and only Rs. 3.1 lakh was paid to Assam. The highest beneficiaries were from Maharashtra i.e. 3131073 followed by Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka i.e. 1902660, 1540060, 963822 and 585689 respectively. Gujarat has 7th rank with 354453 beneficiaries. None, of the farmer of Meghalaya was benefitted under the scheme whereas only 221 beneficiaries were from Sikkim. The highest number of farmers who have insured their crops and number of beneficiaries was from Maharashtra whereas the highest area insured, sum insured, gross premium and amount of claims was paid to Madhya Pradesh.

Table 2 Performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in India from Kharif 2016 to Rabi 2017-18

(Amount in Rs. Lakh)

States	No. of farmers	Area Insured (in Hectares)	Sum Insured	Gross Premium	Claims	No. of farmers benefitted
Andhra Pradesh	883446	678985.61	485870.87	46020.59	13213.27	73157
Assam	15789	10475.44	6416.27	181.55	3.1	362
Bihar	1353429	1205396.94	604356.51	71173.38	15156.06	83323
Chhatisgarh	143557	215008.48	215008.48	5039.53	943.58	19576
Gujarat	774927	1133760.32	541116.06	139926.57	100056.04	354453
Himachal Pradesh	348016	120002.7	46133.75	1576.74	319.07	15986
Jharkhand	828412	352730.7	189126.52	26530.45	2460.28	39627
Karnataka	1043967	1253054.5	384776.32	64469.42	68711.29	585689
Kerala	34140	30090.66	28386.45	1216.97	725.96	3753
Madhya Pradesh	7887705	13365566.11	4251420.22	416776.4	382871.04	1540060
Maharashtra	7966673	4282664.92	1366411.77	277343.32	230842.75	3131073
Manipur	8366	9120.89	3693.96	359.26	195.91	8358
Meghalaya	26	16	18	1	0	0
Odisha	446941	283277.49	152520.4	16677.85	15632.09	121079
Puducherry	4299	4065.75	1677.12	159.33	757.21	4299
Rajasthan	7195150	6891198.85	1388422.93	171569.03	113590.39	1902660
Sikkim	574	130.5	45.93	1.02	10.77	225
Tamil Nadu	859154	812246.13	478155.41	113167.99	133748.61	379095



Telangana	515119	460579.06	305478.46	9002.45	6496.35	66000
Tripura	10879	4095.28	2626.87	35.09	15.5	351
Uttar Pradesh	6045246	5314150.91	2336920.77	91683.73	47021.34	963822
Uttarakhand	343174	190518	126818.42	2349.2	616.76	26903
West Bengal	1803686	1048933.2	599392.58	30866.19	9240.27	158605
India	38512675	37666068.44	13514794.07	1486127.06	1142627.64	9478456

Source: Annual Report of Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited 2018-19

Section II

Performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat

Agriculture and allied sector plays significant role in the state economy. Though its contribution in net state domestic product has declined from around 50 per cent during seventies to around 21.6 per cent in 2010-11, agriculture is still considered as a backbone of the state economy. More than half of the working population in Gujarat is still dependent upon agricultural activities for their livelihood. Thus, a higher priority is given to agriculture sector in order to achieve the goals of reducing poverty and malnutrition as well as of inclusive growth. The agriculture sector forms the resource base for number of agro-based industries, it would be more meaningful to view the agriculture sector not as farming alone, as it is a holistic value chain, which includes farming, wholesaling, warehousing, processing, and retailing (Annual Report State of Gujarat Agriculture, 2012).

The Agriculture sector which forms the source of livelihood for the majority people in the Gujarat is largely dependent upon rainfall. Since the rainfall is highly irregular that varies widely across the different parts of the State. Moreover, the challenges of climate change and global warming, deteriorating the health of soil including deficiency of micronutrient, low productivity, unfavorable prices and, rising cost of cultivation further exaggerate the risk and uncertainty in agriculture. The risk can be reduced through the crop insurance, which mainly protect the farmers from the loss of crops due to natural calamities and provide the social security to the farmers. Crop insurance can stabilize the income of the farmers and also helps the farmers to initiate production after bad years (Sony and Trivedi, 2013).

The concept of crop insurance was introduced in the country after independence and first crop insurance scheme was implemented in Gujarat for H-4 cotton. After that the number of crop insurance schemes has been implemented in the state. This section has analysed the performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat. The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has introduced in the country during the kharif season of 2015. The premium rate charged under the scheme is 2 percent for the kharif crops, 1.5 percent for rabi crops and 5 percent commercial and horticultural crops. The premium rate to be paid by the farmers is low; the remaining premium is paid by the central and state government equally. The notified crops for the insurance in Gujarat was paddy (irrigated/un-



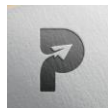
irrigated), cotton (irrigated/un-irrigated), jowar, ragi, moong, moth, urad, groundnut, sesame, maize, castor, banana and bajra for the kharif season and wheat (irrigated/un-irrigated), rape, mustard, gram cumin, fennel, isabgul, onion, garlic, potato, summer bajra for the rabi season. The average indemnity level for the kharif season is 73.75 and 82.22 for the rabi season. The insurance companies which deal with insurance during the kharif season are Agriculture Insurance Company of India, HDFC Ergo General insurance Co. Ltd and during the rabi season United India Insurance Co. Ltd (Kumar and Ghosh, 2018).

The performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujrat has been shown in the table 3. The table reveals that the number of farmers who have insured their crops were 415028 during the kharif season 2016, the number declined to 359899 during the kharif season 2017, similarly the decline can be seen in the area insured and sum insured during the kharif season 2017. The premium paid by the farmers increased from Rs. 5905.02 lakh to Rs. 7048.53 during the time period, whereas the premium paid by the government of India and state government declined. Therefore, the gross premium paid for the insurance of crops also declined from Rs. 81401.09 lakh to Rs. 58525.48 lakh during the same time period. The amount of claims approved was increased from Rs. 49890.18 lakh to Rs. 50165.86 lakh in kharif season 2017, whereas the number of farmers benefitted under the scheme was declined from 210446 in kharif season 2016 to 144007 in kharif season 2017. The total number of farmers who have insured their crop was 774927 whereas the number of beneficiaries was only 354453, reason being the delay in the payment of claims.

Table 3: Performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat

Particulars	Seasons		Total
	Kharif 2016	Kharif 2017	
No. of farmers insured	415028	359899	774927
Area insured (in Hectares)	686834.21	446926.11	1133760.32
Sum insured (in Rs. Lakh)	298576.60	242539.46	541116.06
Farmer's share (in Rs. Lakh)	5905.02	7048.53	12953.55
Govt. of india share (in Rs. Lakh)	35817.93	25738.48	61556.41
State share (in Rs. Lakh)	39678.14	25738.48	65416.62
Gross premium (in Rs. Lakh)	81401.09	58525.48	139926.57
Approved claims (in Rs. Lakh)	49890.18	50165.86	100056.04
No. of farmers benefitted	210446	144007	354453

Source: Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited 2018-19.



The district wise proportionate performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has been shown in the table 4. The table reveals that the highest percentage of farmers who have insured their crops were from the Rajkot i.e. 43.71 percent followed by Bhavnagar (11.45 percent), Sabarkantha (8.04 percent), Junagadh (5.75 percent) and Aravali (4.51 percent). The highest percentage of area insured can be seen in Rajkot i.e. 45.57 percent followed by Bhavnagar (13.04 percent), Junagadh (6.63 percent), Patan (5.81 percent) and Sabarkantha (5.11 percent). The percentage of sum insured can be seen in Rajkot 44.41 percent followed by Bhavnagar 15.49 percent, Junagadh 6.50 percent, Sabarkantha 6.43 percent and Aravali 3.80 percent. The highest percentage of gross premium was paid by Rajkot i.e. 73.70 percent followed by Bhavnagar (12.47 percent), Sabarkantha (5.02 percent), Aravali (1.20 percent) and Junagadh (0.94 percent). None of the farmers from Surat and Tapi have insured their crops. The highest area insured and sum insured can be seen in Rajkot as well as the highest amount of gross premium was also paid by the Rajkot.

Table 4: District Wise Proportionate Performance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat Kharif season 2016 to Rabi Season 2016-17

Districts	Farmers insured	Area insured	Sum insured	Gross premium
Anand	1.24	1.16	1.87	0.20
Aravali	4.51	2.98	3.80	1.20
Bhavnagar	11.45	13.04	15.49	12.47
Chotaudepur	0.58	0.57	1.03	0.16
Gandhinagar	1.42	1.09	1.64	0.32
Mahisagar	3.08	1.32	1.09	0.14
Panchmahal	3.81	1.53	1.47	0.33
Patan	4.46	5.81	2.72	1.83
Rajkot	43.71	45.57	44.41	73.70
Sabarkantha	8.04	5.11	6.43	5.02
Surat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ahmedabad	0.32	0.60	0.53	0.13
Amreli	1.77	2.50	2.28	0.62
Kutchh	0.67	0.90	1.09	0.25
Kheda	0.32	0.27	0.56	0.21
Gir Somnath	0.59	0.59	0.61	0.13
Junagadh	5.75	6.63	6.50	0.94
Jamnagar	2.27	3.19	2.66	0.92
Tapi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Devbhoomi				
Dwarka	0.70	1.01	0.83	0.10
Dahod	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Porbandar	0.72	0.99	0.94	0.26



Banaskantha	1.93	1.84	1.21	0.39
Botad	0.74	0.88	0.91	0.14
Bharuch	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Mehsana	0.86	0.70	0.69	0.16
Morbi	0.38	0.49	0.38	0.09
Vadodara	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Surendranagar	0.64	1.17	0.82	0.28
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Kumar and Ghosh, 2018

Conclusion

Agricultural business organization is facing more risk than other business sectors as agricultural products are related to natural process or biological in nature. Agriculture is particularly exposed to adverse natural events such as pests or insect damage and poor weather conditions that adversely affect production. The farmers need risk management strategies to cope with these adverse events. The most important strategy is crop insurance that protects the farmers from loss or damage to crops. It has the great potential to provide value to farmers, both by protecting farmers when shocks occur and by encouraging greater investment in next crops. The number of crop insurance schemes has been introduced in India and all the schemes are implemented in Gujarat. Under the national agriculture insurance scheme the highest number of farmers who have insured their crops and highest number of beneficiaries was from Maharashtra whereas, the highest amount of claims was paid to Gujarat. In case of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Gujarat, amount of claims paid was almost two times less than the number of farmers who have insured their crops reason being the delay in the payment of claims.

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