

**94.** The Government is committed to the development of Multi-State Cooperatives and will provide all support to them. To further streamline the 'Ease of Doing Business' for Cooperatives, I propose to set up a separate Administrative Structure for them.

### ***3. Inclusive Development for Aspirational India***

**95.** Honourable Speaker Sir, under this pillar, I will cover Agriculture and Allied sectors, farmers' welfare and rural India, migrant workers and labour, and financial inclusion.

#### ***Agriculture***

**96.** Our Government is committed to the welfare of farmers. The MSP regime has undergone a sea change to assure price that is at least 1.5 times the cost of production across all commodities. The procurement has also continued to increase at a steady pace. This has resulted in increase in payment to farmers substantially.

**97.** In case of wheat, the total amount paid to farmers in 2013-2014 was ₹33,874 crores. In 2019-2020 it was ₹62,802 crores, and even better, in 2020-2021, this amount, paid to farmers, was ₹75,060 crores. The number of wheat growing farmers that were benefitted increased in 2020-21 to 43.36 lakhs as compared to 35.57 lakhs in 2019-20.

**98.** For paddy, the amount paid in 2013-14 was ₹63,928 crores. In 2019-2020 this increased ₹1,41,930 crores. Even better, in 2020-2021, this is further estimated to increase to ₹172,752 crores. The number of farmers benefitted increased from 1.24 crores in 2019-20 to 1.54 crores in 2020-21.

**99.** In the same vein, in case of pulses, the amount paid in 2013-2014 was ₹236 crores. In 2019-20 it increased ₹8,285 crores. Now, in 2020-2021, it is at ₹10,530 crores, a more than 40 times increase from 2013-14.

**100.** The receipts to cotton farmers have seen a stupendous increase from ₹90 crores in 2013-14 to ₹25,974 crores (as on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021). The details are in Annexure IV.