

**Press Information Bureau
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture**

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Satellite-Based Imaging and Geospatial Technology

The Government has recently launched a pilot study called KISAN+ (C (K) rop Insurance using Space technology geoinformatics). The programme envisages use of high resolution remote sensing data (from Indian and International Satellites), sophisticated modeling activity and other geospatial technology (smartphone, Global Positioning System (GPS), Bhuvan Server) for improving the accuracy of crop yield estimation through more efficient Crop Cutting Experiments. At some sample locations images will be collected using Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAVs)/Drones. The project proposes to use multi-parameter modeling for Block level yield estimation. A study has been entrusted to Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) to conduct a pilot in 4 districts (1 district each) in 4 States (Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra) during Kharif 2015 season, 8 districts (2 districts each) during Rabi 2015-16 season.

The timely and accurate yield assessments are essential for settling insurance claims for crop damage to the farmers. With use of advance technology, it is expected that there will be improvements in yield estimation, which will in turn help the farmers for assessing the extent of loss in a precise manner and reducing the time for arriving at final yield data for calculation of claims under crop insurance scheme.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Sh. Mohanbhai Kalyanjibhai Kundaria in Lok Sabha today.

NCJ/CP