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AN ANALYSIS OF PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJANA (PMFBY): A CASE STUDY OF DAKSHINA KANNADA

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ABSTRACT
The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY): a case study of Dakshina Kannada. The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), launched by the Indian government in 2016, represents a significant intervention aimed at providing wide-ranging crop insurance to farmers against non-preventable natural risks, thus stabilizing the income of the agriculture sector and encouraging farmers towards innovative farming practices. The objectives of the study are to know about the status of PMFBY at the national and state levels and to suggest policy measures to cover a larger number of agriculturalists under PMFBY. The present study is based on secondary source of data and the scope of the study is to motivate farmers to implement cutting-edge and contemporary farming techniques. The study covered only the position of the PMFBY at the national, state, and Dakshina Kannada levels for small and medium farmers and agriculturalists.
KEY WORDS: *Farmers, Agricultural. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and Insurance.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is an ambitious agricultural insurance scheme launched by the Indian Government to provide ample insurance coverage against crop failure as a result of natural calamities, pests, and diseases. It aims to support sustainable production in agriculture by providing financial support to farmer's affliction crop loss or damage arising out of unexpected events, thereby stabilizing their income and ensuring their continued farming.

Introduced on February 18, 2016, by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, PMFBY replaced the earlier two schemes, the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS, which had several limitations in effectively addressing the needs of farmers.

This scheme's goal is to give farmers insurance coverage and financial support in the affair that any of the registered crops fail due to pests, illnesses, or natural disasters. Additionally, it provides farmers with a stable income to ensure that they can continue farming and encourages them to use cutting-edge, contemporary agricultural techniques.

The scheme shall be implemented through a multi-agency framework by preferred insurance companies under the overall guidance and control of the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation, and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), the Government of India (GOI), and the relevant state in collaboration with several other organizations, including government departments such as Agriculture, Horticulture, Statistics, Revenue, Information/Science & Technology, Panchayati Raj, and financial institutions such as commercial banks, cooperative banks, regional rural banks, and their regulatory bodies.

Literature Review

Kaur Sandeep et al (2022)[1], in their study reveled that the coverage of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBJ) is still poor, with less coverage of crops, a delay in the claim process, a lack of cooperation from banks, and a very low attentiveness of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBJ) compared to other insurance companies, with less coverage of various risks and crops and a delay in claim payments.

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Sandeep Kaur et al (2021)[2], in their study emphasied that agricultural insurance coverage under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) stayed low in provisions of the overall number of farmers benefiting, the area covered, the number of farmers insured, and the amount of claims paid. Furthermore, the PMFBY had significantly lower beneficiary and claim premium ratios than other systems. This report makes the case that digital media could aid in educating farmers about these programs.
Kavitha, V. et al (2022)[3] in their study commence that non-loaned farmers have obtained better awareness when compared to the loaned farmers and the constraints faced by insured and non-insured farmers. In addition to the delay in claim settlement, non-insured farmers were unaware of this scheme, and its paper recorded the various risk mitigation strategies adopted by non-insured farmers.

S. M. Keerthi Kumara and D. Sujatha Susanna Kumar (2021)[4], in their study observed that there is a massive difference in beneficiary ratio among the regions: Western states, such as India, have 45.4%, whereas North-eastern states have only 13%, which could hamper the participation spirit of the farmers in the lowest ratio's region. In the individual states, Manipur (North-eastern state) and Tamil Nadu (Southern states) have the highest ratio, while Jharkhand (Eastern state) and Assam have the lowest ratio. Through this, the results cannot be generalized region-wise. Hence, it is advised that policymakers consider the performance of the scheme region-wise in addition to state-wise individually to make effective decisions.

Research Gap
Future research should focus on how digital communication can enhance awareness and participation, address regional disparities, streamline claim processes, and better understand the needs of different farmer segments, particularly in underrepresented areas. Moreover, studies should explore how policies can be tailored regionally to improve scheme effectiveness across various states and regions.

Objectives
1. To know about the status of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) at the national and state levels.
2. To study the benefits received by the beneficiaries of PMFBY in Dakshina Kannada.
3. To suggest policy measures to cover more numbers of agriculturalists under PMFBY.

II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
This study is based on secondary data, which have been collected from the various articles published in research journals and annual reports, and additional information was collected from the official websites of the agricultural and national crop insurance sectors and Banking for PMFBY. The information related to state wise coverage of farmers and PMFBY scheme was collected form PMFBY & RWBCIS Combined - State Wise Business Statistics as on 31.08.2022. The taluk wise claim settlement details have been collected form Deputy Director of Horticulture, Z.P. Dakshina Kannada District, Mangaluru. To study the taluk wise performance of clime settlement, simple average tool has been employed.

Scope of the study
The study is conducted with Dakshina Kannada district farmers and agriculturalists to determine the status and benefits received by the beneficiaries of PMFBY. This scheme is to give confidence farmers to adopt innovative and modern agricultural practices. And ensure the flow of credit to all agriculture sectors.

Limitations of the study
- The research is carried out in a limited area to determine the benefits received by the beneficiaries of PMFBY among Dakshina Kannada farmers and agriculturalists.
- This study covered only the status of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for national and state small and medium farmers.

III. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
An overview of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
The program, which was introduced six years ago, was redesigned in 2020 to allow farmers to participate voluntarily. Additionally, it made it easy for farmers to details crop damage within 72 hours of any incident by using the Crop Insurance App, the CSC Center, or the closest agriculture officer. Benefits from claims were then electronically deposited into the qualifying farmers' bank accounts.

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The program's primary components are the integration of land records with the National Crop Insurance Portal (NCIP) of the PMFBY, the Crop Insurance mobile app for easy farmer enrollment, the transmission of farmer premiums via NCIP, a module for subsidy release, and a module for claim release via NCIP.

As small and marginal farmers make up about 85% of the enrolled farmers, the initiative has been able to offer financial support to the most vulnerable farmers. India's Finance Minister, Smt, recently announced the usage of drones for crop insurance. Nirmala Sitharaman, during her 2022–2023 budget speech. This declaration would reinforce technology integration for a seamless program rollout locally.

It should be noted that the initiative will launch a doorstep distribution campaign to give crop insurance policies, or "Meri Policy Mere Hath," to farmers in all implementing States. Educating farmers on their policies, land records, and the PMFBY claim and grievance redress process is the campaign's main objective.

Farmers are required to pay a very modest premium tariff under PMFBY: 2% of the total insured for all Kharif crops, 1.5% for all Rabi crops, and 5% for yearly commercial and horticultural crops. The central government and the state governments split the remaining premium.

For farmers in Dakshina Kannada, or any other district, to assistance from PMFBY, they should follow these steps:

Eligibility: All farmers, including sharecroppers and resident farmers rising notified crops in the notified areas, are eligible for coverage. The scheme covers a wide range of crops, including food crops (cereals, millets, and pulses), oilseeds, and commercial/horticultural crops.

Application Process: Farmers can apply for exposure under the scheme through various channels such as:

- ✓ Visiting the nearest Common Service Centre (CSC).
- ✓ Through the official PMFBY portal or app.
- ✓ Through authorized banks and insurance agents.

Required Documents: Typically, farmers need to provide their land records, Aadhaar card, bank account details, and any other documents as specified by the insurance providers.

Timeline: It's important to apply within the specified cut-off dates for Kharif and Rabi seasons. These dates are usually announced by the state governments and can also be found on the PMFBY portal.

Claim Process: In case of crop damage, the farmer must notify the insurance company, either directly or through the designated bank/agent, within 72 hours of the occurrence. The insurance company then arranges for a survey and assesses the loss.

STATUS OF PMFBY

An analysis of PMFBY the data was collected from State Wise Business Statistics. The data were classified under south zone of India with Five states. The States are 1) Andhra Pradesh 2) Tamil Nadu 3) Kerala 4) Karnataka 5) Telangana.

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Table: I. State wise Status of PMFBY.

State/UT Name	Farmers Applications Insured (Lakh)	Area Insured (Lakh ha)	Sum Insured	Farmers Share in Premium	Gross Premium	ReportedClaims	Paid Claims	Farmer Applications Benefitted (Lakh)
			Rs. Crore					
A & N Islands	0.001	0.001	0.32	0.002	0.03	0.00	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	27.884	19.873	15,031.92	0.172	1,474.73	1,259.01	1,254.03	13.533
Assam	10.027	5.615	4,033.73	57.099	142.44	17.27	-	-
Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	40.177	24.346	9,032.42	180.861	1,245.79	1,314.60	1,296.59	15.025
Goa	0.009	0.001	0.96	0.022	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.001
Gujarat	24.810	29.438	16,143.17	467.959	3,614.98	354.89	111.67	0.927
Haryana	17.111	22.505	15,132.97	268.803	1,221.72	932.26	927.45	5.552
Himachal Pradesh	2.840	0.941	746.68	30.711	83.07	64.60	58.01	1.505
Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	10.921	6.451	3,739.05	2.792	356.02	25.46	-	-
Karnataka	21.316	21.668	9,830.01	253.480	2,276.33	1,357.79	1,215.35	6.869
Kerala	0.581	0.372	307.80	6.117	72.50	85.90	85.90	0.457
Madhya Pradesh	78.929	112.682	32,030.72	629.279	3,758.65	5,905.48	5,811.75	30.546
Maharashtra	145.642	79.223	30,282.21	868.432	6,353.77	6,755.92	6,747.05	87.895
Manipur	0.033	0.026	17.34	0.347	1.26	1.14	1.14	0.032
Meghalaya	0.006	0.003	2.31	0.086	0.09	0.18	0.18	0.005
Odisha	48.769	18.688	12,197.35	241.876	2,132.85	1,177.91	1,139.48	12.078
Puducherry	0.120	0.092	62.30	-	4.18	7.16	-	-
Rajasthan	85.260	96.935	34,909.48	734.677	5,060.10	4,920.44	4,920.31	25.574
Sikkim	0.000	0.000	0.08	0.002	0.00	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	38.705	14.072	9,329.88	168.419	1,923.39	1,090.13	1,056.84	13.213
Telangana	10.335	11.347	8,459.17	239.487	880.75	402.28	-	-
Tripura	0.364	0.061	37.17	0.756	1.07	0.81	0.80	0.077
Uttar Pradesh	46.947	35.572	16,743.95	321.955	1,304.82	1,116.75	1,092.74	9.343
Uttar khand	2.127	1.135	968.53	28.208	113.71	103.18	103.17	0.949
West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	**612.9**	**501.0**	**219,040**	**4,502**	**32,022**	**26,893**	**25,822**	**223.6**

Source: ***FY 2019-20 - PMFBY & RWBCIS Combined - State Wise Business Statistics as on 31.08.2021***

As per the information provided in Table I. in Andhra Pradesh, out of the total 27.88 lakhs applied for PMFBY, 13.533 (48.5%) farmers have been capable for claim settlement, In Karnataka, 21.316 lakh farmers applied for PMFBY, 6.869 (32.22%) farmers have been capable for claims settlement, followed by Tamil Nadu at 34.21%. Kerala has 0.581 lakh farmers who applied for PMFBY, out of which claim settlement was around 78.68%, and the data reveals that Telangana has no claims settlement under PMFBY.

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The study revealed that, out of all the southern states, there are more farmers benefitted under PMFBY in Kerala state with claims settlement around 78.68%.

Status of PMFBY in Dakshin Kannada.

An analysis of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) data was collected from the Deputy Director of Horticulture, Z.P. Dakshina Kannada District, Mangalore, from the 2022–23 RWBCIS Claim Settlement. According to the information gathered, there are PMFBY beneficiaries in all the taluks and D.K district.

Table: II. The Taluk wise claim settlement details.

2022-23 RWBCIS Claim settlement Details					
S.N	Taluk	Arecanut		Pepper	
		No. Of Proposal	Claim amount (Rs in lakh)	No. Of Proposal	Claim amount (Rs in lakh)
A	Mangalore	563	1,22,57,647.47	3	24,087.5
B	Bantwal	18,361	43,62,94,051.6	1,108	1,17,78,260
C	Moodbidri	1,695	5,09,43,358.74	43	6,79,941.49
D	Mulki	68	14,49,596.52	0	0
E	Puttur	22,761	74,11,50,639.7	7,792	9,59,34,034
F	Kadaba	22,411	57,74,38,709.6	4,533	4,84,87,197.6
G	Sullia	22,330	75,08,76,372.1	9,734	12,64,72,028
H	Belthangady	20,031	47,20,47,211.5	981	1,53,10,815.3
Total		**1,08,220**	**3,04,24,57,587**	**24,194**	**29,86,86,364**

Source: *Deputy Director of Horticulture, Z.P. Dakshina Kannada District, Mangaluru*

In accordance with the information shown in Table 2, Puttur taluk has the highest number of PMFBY proposals carried by the areca nut farmers(22761) during 2022–23.It is followed by Mulki Taluk which has the lowest number of PMFBY proposals received by the areca nut farmers (68) during 2022–23. As the data recorded in Table 2, Sullia taluk has the highest number of PMFBY proposals received by the pepper farmers (9,734) during 2022–23.While Mulki taluk has no paper grown applied for PMFBY.

FINDINGS

- Andhra Pradesh has the highest number of farmers who applied for PMFBY; out of the total 27.88 lakh farmers who applied for PMFBY, 13.533 farmers have been eligible for claims settlement, or around 48.5%.
- The Telangana has no claims settlement under PMFBY.
- The Puttur taluk has the highest number of PMFBY proposals received by the areca nut farmers during 2022–23.
- The Sullia taluk has the highest number of PMFBY proposals received by the pepper farmers during 2022–23.
- The Mulki Taluk follows that it had the lowest number of PMFBY proposals received by the areca nut and pepper farmers during 2022–23.

SUGGESTION

- There should be maximum number of awareness programmes on PMFBY scheme organized by the government. So as to help the farmers to deserve its benefits. The government could use the various institutions or organizations such as panchyeths, educational institutions, NGO to spread the various aspects of PMFBY.
- The government can be simplifying the claims process, ensure timely payouts to improve the farmer's confidence in this scheme.

CONCLUSION

As an agricultural country, India needs strong institutional and financial assistance to help farmers carry out their activities smoothly. In this contest, PMFBY was introduced in 2016 for financial assistance and to boost crop landholders in India.

This study found that Andhra Pradesh has the highest number of farmers who applied for PMFBY and claims settlement, while Telangana has the lowest number of farmers who applied for PMFBY and no claims settlement. The state-level performance of PMFBY was that Puttur taluk had the highest number of proposals received by the areca nut farmers and Sullia taluk had the highest number of proposals received by the pepper farmers during 2022–23. It was concluded that Dakshina Kannada district (Mulki Taluk) had the lowest number of PMFBY proposals received by the areca nut and pepper farmers due to a lack of awareness and accessibility of this scheme.

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