

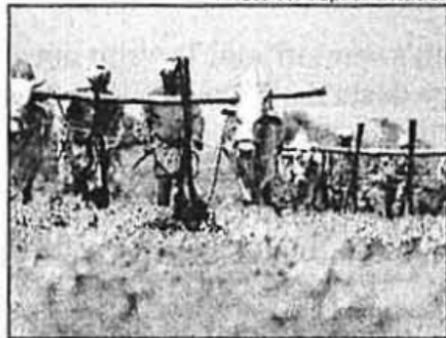
Farmer gets ₹1.76 aid under PM crop insurance scheme

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Aurangabad: A young Maharashtra farmer who had claimed insurance for crop loss under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana after incessant September rain ravaged his two-acre farm in Dhasala village of Parbhani district was dealt a bigger shock when the sanctioned amount of Rs 1.7 hit his bank account.

Krushna Raut (32) had

Photo for representation



A BIG SHOCK

spent Rs 25,000 on sowing soybean, tur dal and gram. He paid an insurance premium of Rs 455 and another Rs 200 later for crop-loss assess-

ment, against which he had been expecting to be sanctioned compensation of around Rs 27,000 an acre. "The amount I received is a joke," he said.

He isn't the only one to have received a pittance as compensation under the central scheme. Fellow farmer Gajanan Chavan said, "Of the four crops I sowed on three acres of land, I received Rs 14.2 as compensation for damage to one, Rs 1,200 for another and nothing for the re-

maining two. I had paid over Rs 1,800 as premium." Gajanan's brother Vikram said he kept calling the insurer's helpline, but received no response.

Farmer Pandurang Kadam, a 33-year-old science postgraduate, received Rs 37.3 as compensation for one crop and Rs 327 for another. He owns two acres of land. While his premium was Rs 595, his brother Indrajit paid Rs 1,980 and got compensation of Rs 73.4 and Rs 260 re-

spectively for damage to two crops.

Parbhani district collector Aanchal Sood said the administration was reviewing the claims by farmers that they received compensation equivalent to a fraction of the premiums they paid. "Total insurance compensation of Rs 160.9 crore has been released to approximately 5 lakh farmers so far. For post-harvest losses, another Rs 33 crore will be given to 88,000 farmers."