

# PM, Shah hail MSP move as 'historic'

**New Delhi:** BJP expects the Cabinet decision approving rise in MSP for kharif crops, amounting to 50% over costs, to help it retain support of rural voters in the approaching assembly and Lok Sabha elections even as more long-term measures take time to kick in.

With the need to urgently address farm discontent after the closely fought Gujarat polls in December last year, it became apparent that the proposed hikes in MSP could have been considered even earlier. The farm anger was not much about debts but lack of remunerative prices in times of higher production.

Concerned over farm distress turning into a damaging narrative, BJP welcomed the hiked MSPs announced by the government on Wednesday with PM Modi and party chief Amit Shah leading the party in underlining the Centre's commitment towards boosting farm income.

"I am delighted that the government has fulfilled its promise of raising the MSP for kharif crops to 1.5 times more than the cost of production. This is a historic rise," PM Modi tweeted.

Shah called the decision

---

'historic' and emphasised that the move would benefit the farming community. "No such decision had been taken by any government in seven decades since Independence," added Shah.

"I want to thank PM Modi and his cabinet colleagues for taking this big decision in the interest of farmers. This will resolve many problems faced by farmers," he added.

---