

## Farmer enrolment dips for Modi's crop insurance scheme: Report

Though farmers' enrolment has lowered, cost of premiums and number of claims have increased. The Narendra Modi government's crop insurance scheme has seen a significant decline in farmer enrolment, according to a *Business Insider* [report](#) citing data.

The number of farmers enrolled in the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme dropped by about 15 percent, to 48.5 million in FY17 from 57.3 million in FY16.

Many farmers couldn't enrol in the scheme due to poor connectivity to the portal, a senior official of an insurance firm told *Business Insider*.

Farmers who take loans from a bank are automatically enrolled into PMFBY, as the bank automatically deducts the premium from the loan. For farmers who haven't taken loans, enrollment is optional.

At least 80 percent farmers enrolled in the scheme have taken loans from banks, the report added.

Premium rates quoted by insurance firms will probably remain on the higher side this year, the report said.

The gross premium collection by insurance companies rose 10 percent last year, to Rs 243.58 billion in FY17 from Rs 221.90 billion in FY16.