

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1937
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17/03/2023

SCHEME FOR POTATO GROWING FARMERS

1937. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scheme is being run by Central Government to intervene and protect potato growing farmers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, particularly Ballia and Ghazipur, for selling their produce at unremunerative price, due to slump in the market price of potato during crop season 2023;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of perishable horticultural / agricultural commodities (including potato) in order to provide remunerative price to farmers. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels / cost of production. MIS is implemented at the request of a State Government / Union Territory which is ready to bear 50 percent of the loss (25 percent in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation. The extent of total amount of loss to be shared on 50:50 basis between the Central Government and the State Government is restricted to 25 percent of the total procurement value which includes cost of the commodity procured plus permitted overhead expenses. Under the Scheme, in accordance with MIS guidelines, a pre-determined quantity at the fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) is procured by the agencies designated by the State Government for a fixed period or till the prices are stabilized above the MIP whichever is earlier.

During the current crop season 2022-23, based on the proposal received from Government of Uttar Pradesh for procurement of potato under MIS, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has approved for the procurement of 10,00,000 MT of potato in the state of Uttar Pradesh for 2022-23 season.
