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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1794 ANSWERED ON 04/08/2023

DOUBLING OF FARMERS' INCOME

1794. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM

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

- (a) the current average daily income of agricultural workers in the country;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to improve working conditions and wages of agricultural workers, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the income of farmers have doubled in the country as promised, if so, whether Government has any statistics to prove the same; and
- (d) by when the promise of doubling of farmer's income is expected to be fulfilled?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): Farmers' income is estimated through the survey conducted by NSSO. As per last "Situation Assessment Survey" conducted in 2012-13, Monthly Agricultural Household Income was estimated as Rs.6426/- which increased to Rs.10218/- as per the survey conducted in 2018-19.

Agriculture being a State Subject, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture and welfare of farmers in the State. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support and various schemes/programmes.

The Government of India is committed to the welfare of farmers. It has launched various central sector and centrally sponsored schemes from time to time covering entire spectrum of agriculture. Government had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee in April, 2016 to examine issues relating to "Doubling of Farmers Income (DFI)" and recommended strategies to achieve the same. The Committee submitted its final report to the Government in September, 2018 containing the strategy for doubling of farmers' income through various policies, reforms & programmes. To achieve the objective, the Committee identified following seven sources of income growth:-

- i. Increase in crop productivity
- ii. Increase in livestock productivity
- iii. Resource use efficiency reduction in cost of production
- iv. Increase in cropping intensity
- v. Diversification to high value agriculture
- vi. Remunerative prices on farmers' produce
- vii. Shift of surplus manpower from farm to non-farm occupations

As per the strategy, Government has adopted and implemented several policies, reforms, developmental programmes and schemes for achieving higher incomes for the farmers directly or indirectly. The unprecedented enhanced budgetary provisions have been made to facilitate the following efforts of the Government.

- 1. Income support to farmers through PMKISAN
- 2. Pradhan Mantri Fasal BimaYojana (PMFBY)
- 3. Institutional credit for agriculture sector
- 4. Fixing of Minimum Support Price(MSP)at least one-and-a half times the cost of production
- 5. Promotion of organic farming in the country
- 6. Per Drop More Crop
- 7. Micro Irrigation Fund
- 8. Promotion of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)
- 9. National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)
- 10. Agricultural Mechanization
- 11. Providing Soil Health Cards to farmers
- 12. Setting up of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) extension Platform
- 13. Launch of the National Mission for Edible Oils Oil Palm
- 14. Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
- 15. Improvement in farm produce logistics, introduction of Kisan Rail.
- 16. MIDH-Cluster Development Programme
- 17. Creation of a Start-up Ecosystem in agriculture and allied sector
- 18. Achievement in Export of Agri and Allied Agri-Commodities

Implementation of these schemes has yielded remarkable results towards augmenting the income of the farmers. As part of the 'Azadika Amrit Mahotsav', Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has released a book, which contains compilation of success stories of 75,000 farmers out of innumerable successful farmers who have increased their income more than two times.