

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1466
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12/12/2025

PROBLEMS OF BANANA AND CORN FARMERS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

1466. SHRI GOLLA BABURAO:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that severe problems are being faced by corn and banana farmers in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether Ministry is aware that banana farmers are throwing their crop on roads and giving it free of cost as feed to cattle as they are not getting even the input price for their crop;
- (c) whether Ministry is also aware that corn farmers in Andhra Pradesh are also not getting ₹2,400 MSP announced by Government; and
- (d) if so, in which manner Government will come to the rescue of corn and banana farmers in Andhra Pradesh through Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) or otherwise without any delay?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

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

The procurement of maize is regulated by guidelines of Department of Food & Public Distribution for allocation, distribution, and disposal of coarse grains procured by the States/FCI. Under these guidelines, the States are allowed to procure maize in Decentralized Procurement mode from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). The Department of Food & Public Distribution reported that the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has not submitted any proposal for procurement of maize for distribution under TPDS during KMS 2025-26.

Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), a component under PM-AASHA, for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the Minimum Support Price regime to protect the farmers from distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival, when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and the cost of production. The scheme is implemented at the request of a State/UT government, which is ready to bear 50% of the loss (25% in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation. New component of Price Differential Payment (PDP) under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for direct payment of the price difference between the Market Intervention Price (MIP) and the selling price to the farmers of perishable crops have been added. The States/ UTs have an option to choose either to do physical procurement of the crop or to make the differential payment between the MIP & Sale Price to the farmers.

To support maize farmers in boosting the production and productivity, various interventions for Coarse-Cereals under National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) is being implemented in the country. In addition, the DA&FW is supplementing the States efforts through schemes such as the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), the Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs and e-NAM integration to strengthen market access and improve price realisation for farmers.

The State Government has reported that they are actively pursuing present situation and taking the following immediate measures to ensure remunerative price to the banana farmers.

- i) State Government has conducted multiple meetings with district administration, local traders and exporters to ensure the procurement of both mother and ratoon crops at reasonable prices.
- ii) The state has organized Buyers and Sellers Meets in North Indian markets, including APMC, Azadpur, Delhi, and interacted with major aggregators/ traders in Haryana to secure market access for AP bananas. As a result, North Indian aggregators have started sourcing the material from Andhra Pradesh.
- iii) The state has informed that, around 3,500 MTs of Bananas per day are purchased by Traders and Exporters and sent to North Indian markets and Middle East Countries from Kadapa and Ananthapuramu districts. This action has already led to a gradual increase in prices, with prices rising by Rs. 2,000/-- to Rs.4,000/- per MT in the past week and the price is expected to increase further from the 15th of December onwards with the availability of the high-quality Mother crop.
- iv) Further, the state is educating farmers on cultural practices to be adopted for maintaining the quality of the fruit and providing incentives on Fruit care activities, Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) certification etc.
