

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 799
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05/12/2025
CRISIS IN SOYBEAN SECTOR

799. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the growing agrarian distress among soybean farmers across major producing States due to market prices remaining substantially below the declared Minimum Support Price (MSP);
- (b) if so, details of soybean procurement by the Central Government at MSP during the 2025–26 Kharif marketing season;
- (c) Reasons for the persistent gap between MSP and actual prices, given reduced cultivation due to yellow mosaic virus and erratic monsoons; and
- (d) any assessment of the impact of higher edible oil imports, especially soybean oil, on domestic prices and farmer incomes?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Every year, Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated agricultural crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), after considering the views of the State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned.

The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSPs at levels of at least one and half times of the cost of production. Accordingly, Government had increased MSPs for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other Commercial crops with a minimum return of 50 percent over all India weighted average cost of production from year 2018-19 onwards.

To realize the objectives of MSP Policy, Procurement of pulses, oilseeds and copra is done under Price Support Scheme under Umbrella Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), in consultation with the concerned State Government as and when market price of these produce fall below the MSP. Procurement agencies under PM-AASHA Scheme are National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) and National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF).

Government offers to procure agricultural crops through designated procurement agencies and farmers have the option to sell their produce to the government agencies or in the open market whichever is advantageous to them.

The procurement of Soyabean at MSP during KMS 2025-26 (upto October 2025) is 5,190 metric tonne. The procurement of Kharif crops is still going on.

The market price of crops depends on domestic demand-supply and other factors. During 2024-25, the import of Soyabean Oil was 47.83 LMT. Government has notified the duty on the import of crude soya oil to 16.5 % and refined soya oil 35.75 % to ensure that soyabean farmers receive better prices for their crops thus increasing their income.
