

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3932
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH MARCH, 2018

REMUNERATIVE PRICES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

3932. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether economic condition of the farmers in Maharashtra is not improving in the absence of proper rainfall, good seeds etc. and also due to not getting remunerative price for their produce;
- (b) the details of the efforts being made to ensure remunerative price to farmers for their produce; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): The low economic condition of farmers in the country including for Maharashtra is attributable to small or marginal agricultural land holdings, traditional methods of farming, non-use of quality seeds, poor soil health, low irrigation facilities, inadequate access to institutional credit etc, which result in lower productivity & output; poor farm gate prices realization owing to inadequate access to marketing facilities & post-harvest support services; and inadequate income supplementation from allied sectors. In view of this, Government set up a Committee in 2016-17 to frame policies and strategies for doubling farmers' income by 2022 through various initiatives of Government. Alongside working on a comprehensive strategy, the Committee has been parallelly suggesting various interventions which the Government is implementing for higher gains and income for the farmers including the farmers from Maharashtra. These schemes include Soil Health Cards (SHC), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and promotion of allied activities like dairying, poultry, beekeeping and fisheries.

(b) & (c): Government has taken several steps to ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their produce which include fixing Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural crops, undertaking procurement through designated procurement agencies, implementing e-National Agriculture Market, enacting the Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017 and promoting Farmer Producer Organization (FPOs).

The MSPs fixed by the Government provide adequate return over weighted average cost of production (A2+FL). The return over weighted average cost of production (A2+FL) for MSPs fixed by Government for 2017-18 has been in excess of 50% with return of 112.4% for Wheat, 88.4% for Rapeseed/Mustard, 79.6% for Masur, 78.8% for Gram, 66.9% for Barley, 65.4% for Urad, 64.3% for Tur, 62.0% for Jute and 50.2% for Bajra.

The Union Budget for 2018-19 has announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSPs at levels of one and half time the cost of production for kharif crops. The Budget has also indicated that NITI Aayog in consultation with central and state Governments will put in place a fool proof mechanism so that farmers will get adequate price for their produce.
