

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.226
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH DECEMBER, 2018

FAILURE OF AGRICULTURE POLICY

226. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government's agriculture policy has completely been proved ineffective to resolve the distress among farmers across the country;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the State Government's and the Union Government's agencies are not procuring agricultural goods/produce even at MSP resulting in farmers leaving their goods/produce on roads; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed by the Union Government to address structural issues of farmers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertakes development of perspective plans and ensures effective implementation of the programmes/ schemes. Also, Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/ Programmes.

The Government is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has taken a number of measures. The Government is aiming to reorient the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department has, therefore, been implementing various schemes to meet this objective viz. Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Interest Subvention Scheme etc.

(c) & (d): Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various agricultural crops on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), after ascertaining the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/ Departments concerned. While recommending MSPs, CACP considers the cost of production and host of factors such as demand-supply situation, trends in domestic and international prices, inter-crop price parity, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors and the likely impact of MSP on consumers and overall economy along with rational utilization of scarce natural resources like land and water.

Government has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all notified Kharif & Rabi Crops and other commercial crops for the season 2018-19 with a return of atleast 50 percent over cost of production. This decision of the Government was a historic one as it redeemed the promise of fixing the MSPs atleast at a level of 50 per cent return over cost of production as announced in the Union Budget 2018-19.

Government of India has approved an umbrella scheme of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA) to ensure Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers comprising of Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses, oilseeds and copra, Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS), and pilot of Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds and existing schemes of Department of Food & Public Distribution (DFPD) and Ministry of Textiles for other MSP notified crops.

During the period from 2014-15 to 2018-19, a quantity of 93.97 lakh MT of pulses and oilseeds valuing Rs. 44,142.50 crore were procured at MSP by various agencies of Government of India.
