

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.419
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5TH FEBRUARY, 2019

PROBLEMS OF CHILLI FARMERS

419. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

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

- (a) whether the chilli producing farmers have had a severe setback in the recent past because of the high value of production investment and steep fall in the prices of the product, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has been able to find out the cause for the steep fall in the prices of chilli, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has any plans of bailing out the farmers who are in severe crisis due to the steep fall in the prices of chilli, if so, the details thereof?

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): No, Madam. The prices of chillies during the current year (2018-19) are steady and on the rise. The prices showed a decline from January 2017 to December 2017, which was mainly due to the increase in production during the year 2016-17.

(c): Government has taken several initiatives for remunerative prices to farmers:

Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, which are generally perishable in nature, is being implemented. The basic objective of MIS is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production. The MIS is implemented on the specific request of the State Government/UTs Administration willing to share losses with the Central Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States).

Government is implementing National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) with objective to reduce price gap, induce competition and transparency in sale transaction, e-NAM has been implemented in 585 wholesale markets in 18 States/UTs in which competitive online bidding system has been introduced for better price realization by the farmers.

Further to enable the farmers to get better remunerative prices, AGMARKNET portal is providing information to farmers on prices and arrivals of agricultural commodities in regulated markets.

The Government has released a new model “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017” on 24th April, 2017 for its adoption by States/UTs. The provisions include setting up of private markets, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, special commodity markets, declaring warehouses/silos/cold storages or such structures as market sub yards. Adoption of these reforms by State, create alternate marketing channels for better price realization by farmers.
