NEED FOR COLD STORAGE

3755. SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that small and marginal farmers in Tenkasi Parliamentary Constituency suffer a lot due to non-availability of cold storage facility, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(b) whether the Government has fixed any guidelines for starting cold storage and if so, whether the Government has created awareness among farmers groups/ cooperatives to get credit linked back ended subsidy to open new cold storage in Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture including post harvest management. Under post harvest management component of the Mission, credit linked back ended subsidy at the rate of 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% in case of hilly and scheduled areas is available for establishment of cold storages in the country including Tenkasi Parliamentary Constituency. The component is demand/ entrepreneur driven from entrepreneurs, private companies, cooperatives, farmers groups etc.

Under the Mission, State is organizing seminars, village level meetings, farmers groups meetings etc. for creating awareness among farmers groups/ entrepreneurs for establishment of cold storage.

Department of Agriculture Marketing and Agri-business, Tamil Nadu has established three cold storages with total capacity of 1035 MT in Tenkasi Parliamentary constituency for the benefit of small and marginal farmers. These cold storages are being used for storing of various horticultural produce by the farmers.

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