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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4898
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23RD JULY, 2019

DIFFICULTIES FACED BY PEPPER FARMERS

4898. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

(a)   whether the Union Government has received any requests from the State Government of Kerala to address the difficulties faced by pepper farmers in Kerala and to provide technical and financial assistances to the farmers for replanting their farm;

(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   whether the Union Government has given any assistance to Pepper farmers on the basis of the requests; and

(d)   if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री   (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b):   Yes Sir. State Horticulture Mission (SHM) Kerala had requested Government of India to sanction additional funds under Special Package to mitigate the losses caused by floods faced by the State during August 2018, which damaged various horticultural crops including 140 hectares of Pepper. SHM Kerala requested assistance for undertaking 2000 ha of pepper cultivation under area expansion component of MIDH to address the situation arising on account of the floods.

(c) & (d):   A Special package amounting to Rs. 93.39 crore including Rs. 56.03 crore as Government of India (GoI) share under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme was sanctioned by Government of India. The entire GoI share of Rs. 56.03 crore was released in a single installment. The Special package also includes assistance for 2000 hectares of pepper cultivation under area expansion as requested by State SHM with financial outlay of Rs. 4.00 crore.

        Apart from the above, an area of 800 hectares was also sanctioned for pepper plantation undr the approved Annual Action Plan of Kerala for the year 2018-19.

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