SALE OF COMMODITIES

1075. SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intends to increase the maximum limit for loss from 25% to 50%, to be incurred by the Union Government and the State Government on the sale of commodities purchased at cost price under Market Intervention Scheme; and

(b) if so, the time schedule for the same and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(a) & (b): Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of perishable horticultural / agricultural commodities in order to provide remunerative price to farmers. The objective of intervention 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 / cost of production. MIS is implemented at the request of a State Government / Union Territory which is ready to bear 50 percent of the loss (25 percent in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation. The extent of total amount of loss to be shared on a 50:50 basis between the Central Government and the State Government is restricted to 25 percent of the total procurement value which includes cost of the commodity procured plus permitted overhead expenses. Under the Scheme, in accordance with MIS guidelines, a pre-determined quantity at the fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) is procured by the agencies designated by the State Government for a fixed period or till the prices are stabilized above the MIP whichever is earlier.