908. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:

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

(a) Whether Government has set up a Committee on Minimum Support Price (MSP) as promised in December 2021;

(b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) Whether the Government will include members from every State Government in the Committee;

(d) Whether the Government plans to expand the MSP regime from 22 mandated agricultural crops to other crops; and

(e) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The Government has constituted a Committee in July, 2022 vide Notification No. 3053 dated 18-07-2022 (copy enclosed) which consists representative of farmers, Central Government, adequate representation of State Governments, eminent Agriculture Economists & Scientists etc. The Committee is to make suggestions so as to make Minimum Support Price (MSP) more effective and transparent; to promote natural farming; to change crop pattern keeping in mind the changing needs of the country.
Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agriculture Costs & Prices (CACP) after considering the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments.

The union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSP at levels of one and half times of the cost of production. Accordingly, Government has increased the MSPs for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production from the agricultural year 2018-19. In line with the same principle, Government has announced the increase in MSP for all mandated Kharif crops of year 2022-23 on 8th June, 2022 and for all mandated Rabi crops of year 2022-23 on 18th October, 2022.
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, 12th July, 2022

S.O. 3211(E).—As per announcement of Hon'ble Prime Minister that “A committee will be constituted to promote Zero budget based farming, to change crop pattern keeping in mind the changing needs of the country, and to make MSP more effective and transparent & that the committee will consist of representatives of the Central Government and State Governments, Farmers, Agricultural Scientists and Agricultural Economists”; a committee is being constituted as follows-

1. Chairman

Shri Sanjay Agrawal (Former Agriculture Secretary)

2. Member NITI Aayog (Agriculture)

Shri Ramesh Chand

3. Agricultural Economist

(i) Dr. C.S.C. Shekhar (Indian Institute of Economic Development)

(ii) Dr. Sukhpal Singh (IIM, Ahmedabad)

4. National Award Winning Farmer

Shri Bharat Bhushan Tyagi

5. Representatives of Farmers

(i) Three members from Sanyukta Kisan Morcha (names to be added on receipt)

(ii) Members from other farmer organizations

- Mr. Gunwant Patil

- Shri Krishnaveer Choudhary

- Mr. Pramod Kumar Choudhary

- Shri Guni Prakash

- Mr. Sayyed Pasha Patel

6. Representative of Farmers’ Cooperative/Group
Subject matter of constitution of the Committee

A) M. S. P.

1. Suggestions to make available MSP to farmers of the country by making the system more effective and transparent.
2. Suggestions on practicality to give more autonomy to Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and measures to make it more scientific.

3. To strengthen the Agricultural Marketing System as per the changing requirements of the country to ensure higher value to the farmers through remunerative prices of their produce by taking advantage of the domestic and export opportunities.

B) Natural Farming

1. Suggestions for programmes and schemes for value chain development, protocol validation & research for future needs and support for area expansion under the Indian Natural Farming System by publicity and through involvement and contribution of farmer organizations.

2. To suggest strategies for making Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs) and other Research & Development institutions as knowledge centres, and introduction of natural farming system curriculum and skill development courses in the Universities & other educational Institutions.

3. To suggest farmer friendly alternative certification system and marketing system for natural farming processes and products.

4. To suggest methods and means for international coordination to strengthen the value chain development of natural farming.

5. Chain of laboratories for organic certification of products produced through natural farming.

C. Crop Diversification

1. Mapping of existing cropping patterns of agro-ecological zones of producer and consumer states.

2. Strategy for diversification policy to change the cropping pattern according to the changing needs of the country.

3. Arrangement for agricultural diversification & system to ensure remunerative prices for the sale of new crops.

4. Review and suggestion on micro irrigation scheme.

[F. No. 12/7/22-S.S.]

SHUBHA THAKUR, Jt. Secy

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