

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 310
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER, 2019

DEMANDS OF TOBACCO FARMERS

310. SHRI D.K. SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that tobacco farmers are protesting for adequate price for their tobacco crop;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received any representation demanding increase to Rs. 200 per kg of tobacco bought by the Board along with Rs. 1,750 (without tax) per kg for single barrel tobacco;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to meet the growing demands of the tobacco farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Tobacco Board under Ministry of Commerce & Industry regulates the production and curing of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco. No such incident has come to the notice of Department of Commerce.

(b) & (c): Tobacco Board is only facilitating sale of tobacco produced by the growers at auction platforms of the Board and is not directly involved in purchase of tobacco. No such representation has been received in Tobacco Board so far.

(d) & (e): Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is not implementing any tobacco development scheme for tobacco growers/farmers. However, DAC&FW has extended Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), an ongoing sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternative crops/ cropping system in tobacco growing states namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal w.e.f 2015-16.
