PROMOTION OF AGRO-FORESTRY

2201. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

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

(a) whether the Ministry is implementing a scheme to push agro-forestry to enhance indigenous species of trees, native seeds, etc.;

(b) if so, whether it is true that Andhra Pradesh has not been given money for agro-forestry since 2017-18 after allocating Rs. 3.15 crores in 2016-17 when the scheme started;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the efforts being made to push agro-forestry in Andhra Pradesh?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is presently implementing Sub-Mission on Agroforestry (SMAF) Scheme in 23 States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh with an aim to encourage and expand tree plantation in a complementary and integrated manner with crops and livestock to improve productivity, employment opportunities, income generation and livelihoods of rural households, especially the small farmers. Indigenous /native tree species like Red Sanders, Teak, Nerudu, Usiri, Neem, Panasa, Tamarind, Maredu, etc are being promoted by the State under the scheme.

(b) to (d): The Ministry has been implementing SMAF Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh since FY 2016-17. After allocation of funds of ₹ 6.30 crore, an amount of ₹ 3.15 crore (Central Share) was released to the state during FY 2016-17. Out of which the State had utilized ₹ 2.83 crore, only from FY 2016-17 to FY 2018-19. Efforts are made to implement the scheme in the state by allocating funds in subsequent years. However, the State has not submitted Annual Action Plan for FY 2019-20, FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 under the agroforestry scheme.

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