## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1316 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025

## **UNFULFILLED PROMISES TO FARMERS**

1316. SMT. PRATIMA MONDAL:

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

- (a) the reason behind non-fulfillment of promise of providing a constitutional guarantee for Minimum Support Price (MSP) despite assurances made by the Government during the earlier farmers' protests, where over 700 farmers reportedly lost their lives;
- (b) the details of the specific steps taken to address the 12 demands raised by protesting farmers, including the MSP guarantee and ensure that further agitations do not occur;
- (c) the manner in which the Ministry justify prioritizing corporate interests over farmers' welfare, when issues such as fair pricing, timely procurement and equitable policies remain unaddressed;
- (d) the details of the Government's stance on the demand for a legal guarantee for Minimum 57 Support Prices (MSP) for all crops, as raised by protesting farmers in India;
- (e) whether there are any plan to introduce legislation to ensure MSP for all crops and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the manner in which the Government plans to address the concerns regarding the cap on MSP under current regulations?

## **ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (f): Every year Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for mandated agricultural crops for the country, based on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). In July 2018, the Government of India had decided to fix MSPs at a level of at least 150 percent of the cost of production. The procurement process at MSP involves a series of steps, from setting up of procurement centers by state agencies,

to farmer's registration, grading of crop and payments. To make MSPs more effective and transparent, a committee has constituted on 12th July 2022. The subject matter of the committee also include (i) Suggestions on practicality to give more autonomy to Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and measures to make it more scientific, and (ii) 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. 6 meetings of this committee and 39 meetings of it's various sub-committees have been held till date.

In order to address demands of the agitating farmers, talk was initiated on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2024. Subsequently, discussions were held on 12<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

The issues related to agitating farmers' and their demands are also sub-judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and a committee has also been formed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Next round of discussion with the farmers is scheduled on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.

Government is implementing several schemes and policies such as Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Suraksha Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) having components of Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF), Price Deficit Payment Scheme (POPS) and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), Public Procurement at MSP, National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) etc. to ensure fair pricing & income support to farmers, aiming to protect them from market volatility and exploitation. These schemes are designed to support minimum support prices, improve market access and ensure timely procurement of agricultural produce.

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