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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4886 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST APRIL. 2025

AGRIVOLTAIC FARMING

4886. SHRI G M HARISH BALAYOGI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted/plans to conduct assessment/study regarding the agrivoltaic (APV) potential in the country and has conducted any GIS mapping of agricultural land, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has identified the advantages and disadvantages of agrivoltaic farming especially in the different agro-climatic zones in the country in both Kharif and Rabi seasons, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any assessment/studies regarding the yield response of crops from APV, if so, the details thereof, including the maximum percentage of crop yield loss that can be permitted to ensure food security;
- (d) whether the Government has estimated the revenue generation potential of APV, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government has plans to develop a standardised definition and criterial framework for APV farming, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is mandated for developing and deploying new and renewable energy technologies and systems. MNRE is implementing Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Utthan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM), under which setting up of 10,000 Mega Watt (MW) of Decentralized Ground/ Stilt Mounted Grid Connected Solar Energy based Power Plants by the farmers on their land is supported. The scheme provides a procurement based incentive of Rs. 0.40/units for Distribution Companies (DISCOMS). The available literature indicates that the integration of solar panels and agriculture, offers numerous advantages, including increased land efficiency, higher crop yields, water conservation, and the potential for a more resilient and sustainable food-energy system. However, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) has not carried out any assessment regarding the agrivoltaic (APV) potential in the country and has not done any GIS mapping of agricultural land for Agrivoltaic farming. There is no proposal under consideration for Agri Photo Voltaic (APV) potential assessment, definition standardization, regulatory measures or incentives.