O.I.H.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1529
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28TH JULY, 2026

INCREASE IN MSP

1529. SHRI IMRAN MASOOD:

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

(a) whether the Government has evaluated the actual benefits of the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) announced for 14 Kharif crops for the year 2026-27;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the number of farmers who got an opportunity to sell their produce at the MSP;

(c) whether the Government is aware that farmers in several States were compelled to sell their produce at prices lower than the MSP;

(d) whether the Government is formulating any new action plan to strengthen the effective and universal procurement mechanism at MSP; and

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

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): The Government announced the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 14 Kharif crops for the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2026-27 in the month of May, 2026. Procurement for these kharif crops usually begins after harvesting in October–November each year.

(c) to (e): Every year, Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated agricultural crops for the country as a whole, based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), after considering the views of the State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned.

While recommending MSPs, CACP considers important factors like cost of production, overall demand-supply situation of various crops in domestic and world markets, domestic and international prices, inter-crop price parity, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sector, likely effect of price policy on rest of the economy and a minimum of 50 percent as the margin over cost of production.

Government offers to procure agricultural crops through designated procurement agencies and farmers have the option to sell their produce to the government agencies or in the open market whichever is advantageous to them.

Out of the total production, only marketable surplus is available for procurement by Government agencies when market price of these produce fall below the MSP. Government procures cereals and coarse cereals through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and other designated State Agencies to provide price support to the farmers. Procurement of pulses, oilseeds and copra is done under Price Support Scheme under umbrella scheme of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), on the request of the concerned State Government as per the guidelines as and when market price of these produce fall below the MSP. Procurement agencies under PM-AASHA Scheme are National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) and National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF). Cotton and Jute are also procured by Government at MSP through Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and Jute Corporation of India (JCI), respectively.

In addition, Adequate number of procurement centres are opened by respective State Government Agencies, taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics / infrastructure such as storage and transportation etc. Temporary purchase centres, in addition to the existing mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points. The procurement operation is a continuously evolving process and during the last few years, procurement processes under MSP have improved to ensure payment of MSP to farmer’s bank account directly and linkage of Aadhaar and land records with the States’ procurement portals ensure that the farmers directly get the benefits of the MSP purchase.

Government has launched Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses till 2030-31, to reduce import dependence and achieve self-sufficiency in pulses.To encourage domestic production of pulses, the Government is undertaking procurement of Tur, Urad and Masur under the PM-AASHA Scheme on the request of State Government from pre-registered farmers as much as offered by them through Central Nodal Agencies, namely the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF).

Government also implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), a component under PM-AASHA, for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and the cost of production. There should be at least a 10 percent decrease in the ruling market prices over the previous normal year. The scheme is implemented at the request of a State/UT government.

Government has introduced a new component of Price Differential Payment (PDP) under Market intervention scheme (MIS) from 2024-25 season for direct payment of the price difference between the Market Intervention Price (MIP) and the selling price to the farmers of perishable crops. States/UTs have an option to choose either to do physical procurement of the crop or to make the differential payment between the MIP & Sale Price to the farmers.

Further, from 2024-25 season, Government added another component under Market intervention scheme (MIS) for reimbursing the Storage and Transportation cost of TOP crops (Tomato, Onion and Potato) to central nodal agencies & State designated agencies for transporting them from the producing State to consuming states in the interest of the farmers.

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