

1	2	3	4	5	6
Madhya Pradesh	560	996	-227	101	1430
Maharashtra	799	1263	144	257	2463
Orissa	573	336	16	137	1062
Punjab	1462	2822	236	440	4960
Rajasthan	931	359	5	203	1498
Tamil Nadu	1105	659	110	198	2072
Uttar Pradesh	559	836	53	185	1633
West Bengal	887	737	77	378	2079
ALL INDIA	819	969	91	236	2115

Source: NSS Report No. 497: Income, Expenditure and Productive assets of Farmer Households, 2003.

#### **Onion held up for clearance at Mumbai port**

469. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that when shortage of onion was causing spurt in selling prices in December, 2010, tonnes of onion was held up for clearance at Navi Mumbai Port which denied its access to market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it was a deliberate effort to create shortage or otherwise; and

(d) if otherwise, why concerned authorities could not act promptly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (d) Containers received from Pakistan are required to undergo a 100% scanning at facilities located at the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) - Container Freight Station (CFS) in Mumbai. However, the onion importers did not use CWC-CFS, warranting additional movement of containers from the designated CFS to CWC-CFS and back to the designated CFS before completing other necessary formalities of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), plant quarantine and customs clearances. The customs, plant quarantine and FSSAI accorded necessary clearances without any delay on their part.

#### **Recommendations of Government panel on farm production**

470. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any panel of Government on farm production has recommended cheaper farm loans at 4 per cent and a minimum support price at 50 per cent over the actual cost of cultivation for boosting farm productivity in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by this panel and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Working Group on Agriculture Production has recommended (Chairman: Chief Minister, Haryana) that credit should be made available for agricultural loans at not more than 4% per annum rate of interest. This Working Group has further recommended review of methodology adopted by Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices (CACP) and has, for this purpose, supported adoption of National Commission on Farmers' report suggesting 50% higher price over the actual cost of cultivation or use of Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) formula.

The recommendations of the Working Group are under examination and Core Group of Chief Ministers, which constituted the Working Group, is still to consider the same.

#### **Allocation of budget for agriculture sector**

†471. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population dependent upon agriculture; and

(b) the details of percentage of total budget allocated for agriculture sector by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) As per Census 2001, the percentage of population employed in agriculture was 58.2% out of a total worker population of 402.2 million in the country.

(b) The share of the Agriculture Sector, comprising of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and Department of Agricultural Research and Education in the total central plan outlay was 2.2% and 2.3% respectively in 2009-10 and 2010-11.

#### **Production of rabi crops**

†472. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of probable decrease or increase in the production of rabi crops this year in comparison to that of last year and how far this year will be successful in getting rid of the crisis of foodgrains in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.