

### **Selling of Ghee and Dhara products at MRP at Mother Dairy outlets**

480. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mother Dairy is selling Ghee and Dhara products at Maximum Retail Price (MRP) through its outlets in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Mother Dairy Ghee and Dhara products are available at cheaper price than MRP in Kendriya Bhandar outlets;

(c) if so, action Government proposes to take against Mother Dairy for defrauding its consumers for selling Ghee and Dhara products at higher rates; and

(d) the steps taken to bring down the prices of Mother Dairy Ghee and Dhara products at par with that available in Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has been reported that Kendriya Bhandar is selling Ghee and Dhara at prices less than MRP. Retail outlets are permitted to sell goods not exceeding MRP under the provisions of the Standards of weights and measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977.

(d) Does not arise in-view of (b) and (c) above.

### **Climate resilient agriculture**

481. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR has started a new initiative on climate resilient agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made under this initiative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has launched a new initiative called National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture with an out lay of Rs.350 crore for the period 2010-2012 to assess the impact of climate change on agriculture and allied sectors in the country and evolve cost effective adaptation and mitigation strategies. The components of the scheme include (i) strategic research on natural resources, major food crops, livestock, marine and freshwater fisheries for adaptation and mitigation; (ii) demonstration of available climate resilient practices on farmers' fields in 100 most vulnerable districts of the country (iii) strengthen research infrastructure and capacity building of scientists for undertaking research on climate change adaptation; and (iv) sponsored research.

(c) The project has been sanctioned recently on January 12, 2011. As a follow up action, a workshop was organized on Feb. 1 and 2, 2011 to finalize the detailed technical programme for all the partner Institutes.

### **Balanced application of fertilizers**

482. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Security of the country is suffering due to the declining response of agricultural productivity to increase fertilizer usage;

(b) if so, its statistics for past 10 years, corrective steps taken to increase productivity;

(c) the steps taken to ensure the balanced application of fertilizers;

(d) the rationale and justification of Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy;

(e) the total amount of fertilizer subsidy during past 10 years, year-wise; and

(f) whether subsidy has benefited the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Crop response to applied NPK fertilizers during last 10 years is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The "National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility" has been launched during 2008-09 to promote soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers. The Scheme includes setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories, trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers and promoting use of organic manure, soil amendments and micro nutrients.

(d) The Government has introduced the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy for P&K Fertilizers with effect from 1.4.2010 to promote balanced use of fertilizers.

(e) As per the information made available by Department of Fertilizers the year-wise total amount of fertilizer subsidy is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(f) Yes, Sir. The subsidy on fertilizer is provided to ensure availability of fertilizer on affordable price to farmers to encourage productivity of agriculture.

### ***Statement-I***

#### ***Crop response to applied NPK fertilizers during last 10 years***

Year	Partial factor productivity (kg. grain/kg. applied NPK)
1	2
2000-01	11.78