

Consideration of milk as agricultural produce

3230. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to declare milk as an agriculture produce; and
- (b) if so, its implications on the dairy sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As on date, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to declare milk as an agriculture produce.

- (b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

Bonus to farmers

3231. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA:

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has directed the State Governments to stop allowing bonus to farmers above the Minimum Support Price;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government is aware of the negative impact of such a move on the returns/farmers would get for their produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Government has taken a policy decision that in case, a surplus State undertaking procurement in decentralized mode (called DCP) declares bonus for wheat or paddy from Kharif Marketing Season 2014-15 and Rabi Marketing Season 2015-16 onwards, the Central Government will limit the procurement for central pool to the extent of requirement of foodgrains for Targeted Public Distribution System/Other Welfare Schemes (TPDS/OWS) allocations of that State and will provide acquisition and distribution subsidy to the State Government accordingly. FCI has been directed to acquire any additional quantity of foodgrains from the State Government/its agencies for augmenting its stocks elsewhere, but it would not be under any compulsion to do so. The State Government will be responsible for the disposal of any surplus quantity procured in the State over and above this quantity and bear the financial burden in this regard.