

crops are fixed on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). All components of costs, including fertilizers, are considered, among other factors, by CACP while recommending MSPs.

Interest free loan to farmers

†1090. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the type of subsidy given by Government on loans payable to farmers;
- (b) whether Government intends to provide interest free loans to small and marginal farmers; and
- (c) whether Government intends to distribute quality seeds to farmers by constituting quality seed production cooperative committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Government is not implementing any scheme under which subsidy is given on loans payable to the farmers. However, in order to provide credit to farmers at affordable interest rates, the Government of India, has been implementing the Interest Subvention Scheme since 2006-07 under which short-term crop loans upto Rs.3 lakh are made available to the farmers at an interest rate of 7 per cent per annum by the Banks. The Government of India in 2009-10 introduced an additional interest subvention of 1% for farmers who repay their loans within the period of interest subvention *i.e.* within one year of disbursement of such loans. The additional subvention was increased to 2% in 2010-11 and 3% from 2011-12 onwards. The Interest Subvention Scheme has also been extended to the private sector commercial banks (in respect of short term crop loans disbursed by their rural and semi-urban branches) from the year 2013-14. Thus effective rate of interest payment by the farmers who repay their loan in time is presently 4%.

(b) and (c) No such proposals are under consideration.

Functioning of National Horticulture Mission in Rajasthan

†1091. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that only 24 districts of Rajasthan have been included in the National Horticulture Mission; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.