

Statement*MSP, Cost of Production (A2+FL) and Profit Margin of Major Crops*

(₹ per quintal)

Commodity	2014-15			2015-16		
	MSP	A2+FL	Profit Margin over cost of production (%)	MSP	A2+FL	Profit Margin over cost of production (%)
Kharif Crops						
Paddy	1360	978	39.1	1410	1020	38.2
Maize	1310	914	43.3	1325	941	40.8
Arhar (Tur)	4350	3105	40.1	4425^	3237	36.7
Cotton (Medium Staple)	3750	2510	49.4	3800	2753	38.0
Cotton (Long Staple)	4050	2510	61.4	4100	2753	48.9
Groundnut in shell	4000	3232	23.8	4030	3314	21.6
Soyabean	2560	1729	48.1	2600	1770	46.9
Rabi Crops						
Wheat	1450	744	94.9	1525	785	94.3
Gram	3175	1902	66.9	3425*	2124	61.3
Rapeseed/ Mustard	3100	1504	106.1	3350	1702	96.8

^ Bonus of ₹ 200 per quintal is payable over and above MSP.

*Bonus of ₹ 75 per quintal is payable over and above MSP.

A2+FL = All paid out costs + imputed value of family labour.

Subsidy for establishing oil palm processing units

*141. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy would be made available to establish oil palm processing units in the country, particularly in Odisha; and

- (b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Financial assistance under National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) is available to establish oil palm processing units in the country in North Eastern States/Left Wing (LW) extremism affected districts/hilly States. In Odisha, financial assistance to establish oil processing units is available in LW extremism affected districts.

- (b) Financial assistance for establishing oil palm processing units is included in the annual action plan under NMOOP by the State Government, as and when it deems fit.

Protecting earthworm for sustainable development of farming

†*142. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that excessive use of chemical fertilizers, insecticides and other toxic chemicals in the agricultural fields of the country, including Maharashtra, has brought the man's friend, earthworm, on the brink of extinction whereas these play a vital role in preserving the nutrients of the soil naturally;

- (b) if so, steps taken by Government to protect earthworms for sustainable development of farming; and

- (c) the scheme formulated by Government to encourage the farmers of the country, including Maharashtra, for adopting organic farming through adequate improvement in the soil quality, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources such as vermi-compost, farm yard manure, bio-fertilizers, green manure, etc. of plant nutrients to ensure judicious use of chemical fertilizers to maintain soil health. Application of recommended doses of chemical fertilizers/pesticides is unlikely to cause harm to soil eco-system including earthworm activity.

The Government is conscious of the importance of regulated and balanced use of chemical fertilizers. Hence, it is implementing the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme, which aims at providing all the farmers in the country with a SHC once in a period of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.