

Average income of agricultural household

2161. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the average income of an agricultural household in the country and their monthly savings; and

(b) the extent to which Government has accomplished its target of implementing the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission which provides that the Minimum Support Price of crops for farmers should be at least 50 per cent higher than the cost of cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted a "Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households" during NSS 70th round (January 2013–December 2013) in the rural areas of the country with respect to the agricultural year July 2012–June 2013. The survey estimated the average monthly income and average total consumption expenditure per agricultural household for the agricultural year July 2012 — June 2013 as ₹ 6426/- and ₹ 6223/- respectively.

(b) The National Commission on Farmers' had recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. This recommendation was not accepted by the Government as MSP is recommended by Commission of Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) on objective criteria considering variety of relevant factors. Hence prescribing an increase of at least 50% on cost may distort the market. A mechanical linkage between MSP and cost of production may be counter productive in some cases.

**Acquisition of land in Myanmar and Mozambique
for production of pulses**

2162. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has acquired land in Myanmar and Mozambique for production of pulses on contract farming basis, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of import of pulses during the last two years and the details of buffer stock thereof at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) No, Sir.