

(b) if so, its implications on the dairy sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) There is no proposal to declare milk as an agricultural produce.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply at part (a).

Implementation of recommendation of Swaminathan Commission on MSP

2980. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per Government, implementation of Swaminathan Commission's recommendation on MSP would distort the market and would lead to inflation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) The present level of MSP for various crops provides a return of 40% or more for paddy (41%), bajra (44%), maize (41%), arhar (56%), urad (40%), cotton (44%), soyabean (50%), wheat (94%), barley (58%), gram (65%), masur (69%) and rapeseed/mustard (97%) over their respective all India weighted average all paid out cost of production including family labour (A2+FL) as estimated by CACP.

National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan had recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. MSP is recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) based on objective criteria, considering variety of relevant factors. A mechanical linkage between MSP and cost of production may be counterproductive.

Government has taken various initiatives to increase farm productivity for ensuring higher returns to farmers. In addition, the Government has also constituted an inter-ministerial committee to recommend appropriate strategy to double the income of farmers over the next six years.

Remunerative price for onion growers

†2981. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that onion growing farmers in various parts of the country get the price of their produce quite less in comparison to the cost involved in it;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.