

**MSP scheme for MFP**

1179. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing the scheme of Minimum Support Price for Minor Forest Produce (MFP);
- (b) if so, how many MFPs are covered;
- (c) whether Bamboo and Tendu Patta are also covered in the MSP scheme;
- (d) if not, why these are not covered;
- (e) what are the arrangements for implementing the MSP scheme;
- (f) whether Government is satisfied with the present arrangements; and
- (g) if not, what steps are being taken to improve the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is implementing the Scheme of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for implementing this scheme.

(b) Under the Scheme twelve Minor Forest Produces are covered (i) Karanj Seed, (ii) Mahua Seed, (iii) Sal Seed, (iv) Sal Leaf, (v) Lac, (vi) Chironjee, (vii) Wild Honey, (viii) Myrobalan, (ix) Tamarind, (x) Gums (Gum Karaya), (xi) Bamboo and (xii) Tendu Patta.

(c) and (d) Bamboo and Tendu Patta have been covered under the MSP Scheme. However, a MFP qualifies for coverage under the Scheme only when it is removed from monopoly procurement. Since Bamboo and Tendu Patta are under monopoly procurement in all the States, MSP for these two items has not been declared by the Government of India.

(e) Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal and administrative Ministry for operationalizing the MSP Scheme and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) has been entrusted with the responsibility of providing technical support for implementing the scheme through State Agencies. Procurement and marketing operations are undertaken by State procurement agencies at pre-fixed MSP and procurement is made directly from the tribals. Government of India provides 75% of the financial support to State Agencies and State Government

are expected to contribute 25% of the amount. 'Revolving Fund' are provided to all State procuring agencies for procurement of MFPs covered under the scheme. Financial support is provided by the Ministry to States for creation of infrastructural facilities like warehouse, modernization of haat, processing units, etc.

Monitoring and Inspection Mechanism include State Level Coordination and Monitoring Committees headed by the Chief Secretary and the District Level Coordination and Monitoring Committee headed by District Collector. The operations are also monitored by Government directly or through TRIFED.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Does not arise in view of (f) above.

#### **Setting up of MFPC for MSP**

1180. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up a Minor Forest Price Commission (MFPC) to recommend Minimum Support Price (MSP) for such products;

(b) if not, whether the existing arrangement to suggest MSPs is proposed to be changed;

(c) whether Government is satisfied with the implementation of MSP Scheme; and

(d) if not, what measures are proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR): (a) and (b) At present under the Scheme of "Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and development of Value Chain for MFP" a Pricing Cell is set-up in the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) and on the basis of the recommendations of Pricing Cell, Minimum Support Price (MSP) is decided by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. So far MSP has been provided to ten items viz (i) Karanj Seed, (ii) Mahua Seed, (iii) Sal Seed, (iv) Sal Leaf, (v) Lac, (vi) Chironjee, (vii) Wild Honey, (viii) Myrobalan, (ix) Tamarind, (x) Gums (Gum Karaya).

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.