

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the  
Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary  
Standing Committee on Urban Development**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban Development on Demands for Grants (2016-17) pertaining to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the  
Twenty-fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary  
Standing Committee on Agriculture**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2016-17) pertaining to the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmer's Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

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**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**

**Introduction of a new Rajdhani Express between Ranchi and New Delhi**

\*316. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Jharkhand has requested Railways for introduction of a new Rajdhani Express train to run between Ranchi and New Delhi, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any decision has been taken on this request; and

(c) the response of Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) A

representation from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand has been received, *inter alia*, requesting for running of a daily Rajdhani Express train between Ranchi and New Delhi. Presently, Ranchi and New Delhi are connected on 4 days in a week by 2 pairs of bi-weekly Rajdhani Express trains viz. 12439/12440 Ranchi-New Delhi Rajdhani Express (bi-weekly) [via Bokaro] and 12453/12454 Ranchi-New Delhi Rajdhani Express (bi-weekly) [via Daltonganj]. On the remaining 3 days of the week, 12877/12878 Ranchi-New Delhi Garib Rath Express (tri-weekly) [via Daltonganj] runs on a common path/timings with the Rajdhani group of trains between Son Nagar and New Delhi via Mughalsarai. Thus, owing to the non-availability of path and resource constraints including severe line capacity limitations/congestion on the Mughalsarai-Allahabad-Ghaziabad-New Delhi section, running of Ranchi-New Delhi Rajdhani Express on a daily basis is not feasible at present.

### Reduction of MSP

†\*317. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minimum Support Price (MSP), given by Government to farmers, has proved to be beneficial;

(b) whether many a times, Government reduces this amount in comparison to the previous year's MSP;

(c) whether farmers incur heavy losses due to this; and

(d) if so, whether Government is contemplating to make rules to provide that the MSP will not be less as compared to that of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural crops on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) after considering the views of the State Governments and concerned Central Ministries/Departments. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers, *inter alia*, a number of important factors which include cost of production, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living etc. The MSPs fixed by Government also incentivize the cultivators to adopt modern technology and raise productivity and production.

The MSPs fixed by the Government have been largely beneficial to farmers.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.