

interest rate of 7% per annum, which gets reduced to 4% on prompt repayment. Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme 2015-16, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.

- (viii) In addition, the Government is implementing several Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

MSP is notified for both Kharif and Rabi crops based on the recommendations of the Commission on Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP). The Commission collects and analyses data on cost of activation and recommends MSP. The Government has also declared bonus on pulses for Kharif 2016 over and above the approved MSP. Even during last year, Government offered bonus over and above the MSP in case of pulses.

Further the Government undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under its 'MSP operations'. In addition, Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities not covered under the Minimum Price Support Scheme on the request of State/UT Government. The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when the prices tend to fall below the economic level/cost of production.

CACP recommendations on MSP for pulses

350. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) has recommended a proposal for increase of MSP for pulses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, item-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any decision on the increase of MSP as recommended by CACP, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) Government fixes

Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the major agricultural produce including pulses on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of the State Governments, concerned Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors.

The CACP has recommended increase in MSPs of both Kharif and Rabi pulses for 2016-17 season. In addition, Government has announced a bonus of ₹ 425 per quintal for Kharif Pulses viz. Arhar, Moong and Urad, ₹ 200 per quintal for Gram and ₹ 150 per quintal for Masur. MSPs of pulses for 2015-16 and 2016-17 are given below:

(₹ Per quintal)

Pulses	2015-16	2016-17
Arhar	4625 [^]	5050 ^{^^}
Moong	4850 [^]	5225 ^{^^}
Urad	4625 [^]	5000 ^{^^}
Gram	3500 [*]	4000 [^]
Masur	3400 [*]	3950 ^{**}

[^] Including Bonus of ₹ 200 per quintal.

^{^^} Including Bonus of ₹ 425 per quintal.

^{*} Including Bonus of ₹ 75 per quintal.

^{**} Including bonus of ₹ 150 per quintal.

Assistance under post harvest management and PMKSY

351. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enhance the assistance to the small and marginal farmers for post harvest management; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the micro-irrigation assistance is to be increased to 70 per cent under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to enhance the assistance to the small and marginal farmers in post-harvest management.

(b) There is no proposal for increasing the assistance under micro-irrigation to 70% under "Per Drop More Crop" component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). However, some States are providing additional subsidy over and above the Government of India assistance from State funds.