

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has taken any action on such request; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India (Gol) has been implementing the Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS) since 2006-07 under which short term crop loans upto ₹ 3.00 lakh are made available to farmers at subvented interest rate of 7% per annum. Further from 2009-10 to incentivize the prompt payee farmers, the Gol also introduced a provision of Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI) under the Scheme. Presently, under ISS, the Gol provides PRI @ 3% to the prompt payee farmers for repayment of their crop loans as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks or within a period of one year from the date of disbursement, whichever is earlier.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. A request has been received from the Government of Rajasthan for release of interest subvention by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural development (NABARD) to Rajasthan State Cooperative Bank Ltd. in the beginning of the year. Alternatively, it has been suggested that a revolving fund for matching amount be created to enable Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure to avail timely interest subvention.

As per the current scheme provisions funds are provided by the Government to NABARD only on reimbursement basis of audited claims of concerned banks and there is no proposal under consideration to provide funds in advance.

#### **Income of farmers**

2755. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently conducted any survey to ascertain the increase/decrease in income of farmers of the country since 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the basis on which Government claims that income of farmers has increased or is increasing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) The latest available estimates of average income per agricultural household in the country are based on the "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households" conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) during its 70th round (January 2013 - December 2013). As per the survey results, the average monthly income per agricultural household from all sources is estimated to be ₹ 6,426/.

Government has not conducted any such Survey since 2013. However, the National Statistical Commission (NSC) has decided to conduct the next Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households in the NSS 77th round (January 2019- December 2019) with reference to the agricultural year July 2018 - June 2019.

As per the available reports of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Doubling of Farmers' Income by 2022, the Committee has considered the estimates of income obtained from NSSO 70th round unit level data as the base level income. Moreover, as the base year of doubling of income by 2022 has been kept as 2015-16, the committee has derived income for the year 2015-16 at current prices and constant (2011-12) prices for the major states and for major size classes.

#### **Renovation of old soil testing labs**

2756. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Soil Health Cards distributed in the last three years;
- (b) whether crop specific recommendations about the use of fertilizers and micro-nutrients is also provided to the farmers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether renovation and strengthening of old soil testing labs is undertaken and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The number of Soil Health Cards distributed in the last three years and current year are:-