

Strike by farmers for remunerative price

359. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether farmers across the nation had organized massive strike against policies of Government and non-remunerative prices of agricultural produces during June, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Government to their demands, demand-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Rashtriya Kisan Mahasangh had organized 'Gaon Bandh (Village Strike) agitation from 1st June to 10th June, 2018 over demands including complete waiver of farm loans, implementation of Swaminathan Commission recommendations pertaining to fixation of Minimum Support Price for agricultural produce and guaranteed income of farmers.

(c) In the budget for 2018-19 the Government had announced that MSP for all unannounced kharif crops will be 1.5 times the cost of production. Giving a major boost for the farmers income, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 04.07.2018 has approved the increase in the MSPs for all Kharif crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 per cent of the cost of production. The MSP declared during 2012-13 to 2018-19 for various crops is given in Statement [Refer to the Annexure-I appended to answer to SQ No. 37 Part (c)]

The Government is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has taken a number of measures. The Government is aiming to reorient the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department has, therefore, been implementing various schemes to meet this objective viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Interest Subvention Scheme etc.