

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.

Increasing farm production and doubling the income of farmers

8. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the concrete steps Government has taken to increase farm production and for doubling the income of farmers;

(b) whether any tie-up has been made with Israel to borrow latest techniques to increase farm production, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Indo-Israel task force has been created for the implementation of the programme; and

(d) if so, by when the positive results are likely to be visible on the ground level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Government is aiming to reorient agriculture sector by focusing on income centeredness in addition to pure production-centeredness. In order to realise net positive returns for the farmer, schemes as follows, are being promoted and implemented in a major way, viz: Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme; Neem Coated Urea (NCU); Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY); Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY); National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM); Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY); 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). In addition, schemes relating to tree plantation (Har Medh Par Ped), Bee Keeping, Dairy and Fisheries are also being implemented. All these schemes are being implemented to enhance production and productivity of agriculture and thereby enhance income of farmers.

Further, to achieve the target of doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022, the Government has also constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022. At present, nine volumes prepared by the

Committee have been uploaded on the website of this Department (<http://agricoop.nic.in/doubling-farmers>) for seeking public opinion.

(b) to (d) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing Indo-Israel Agriculture Action Plan 2015-18, as part of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), 1993, between India and Israel for cooperation in the field of agriculture. The Action Plan includes transfer of technology for horticulture development. Under this Action Plan, Centres of Excellence (CoE) are being established with technical cooperation from Israel. The main objective of establishment of these CoEs is demonstration of technologies, training and production of planting material. Under this Action Plan, Israeli experts also travel to these centres and impart hands on training to horticulture field staff and farmers. This is benefit to farmers.

Profitable price for potato growing farmers

9. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that potato growing farmers are compelled to sell their produce at 10 to 20 paise per kilogram during the current season due to its bumper crop; and

(b) if so, the details of measures Central Government would take to ensure profitable price to potato growing farmers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) No. As reported from Government of Uttar Pradesh, during the year 2017, the average market price of potato was ₹ 451/- (March), ₹ 462/- (April), ₹ 485/- (May), ₹ 534/- (June), ₹ 588/- (July), ₹ 569/- (August), ₹ 541/- (September), ₹ 516/- (October), ₹ 494/- (November) and ₹ 499/- Qtls. (in December).

(b) Several measures taken by the Government to ensure profitable price to potato growing farmers of the country are:—

- Launch of National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) on 14th April, 2016 with objective to reduce price gap, induce competition and transparency in sale transactions. e-NAM has been implemented in 470 wholesale markets in 14 States in which competitive online bidding system has been introduced for better price realization by the farmers.
- Further, the Government released a new model “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017” on