

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: For that, I have to come to the point. But, Sir, the production of crops is not equivalent to the expenses that are incurred because of monsoon failure and various other factors. Despite that, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan has recommended that two hundred per cent of the cost of cultivation should be given to the farmers for production. When the monsoon fails, the production is not to the expected or estimated or to the extent of money spent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Government consider giving the MSP two hundred per cent of the cost of cultivation?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, सबसे पहले तो 2006 में 50 फीसदी करने की बात की गई, जो अभी इस खरीफ के सीजन से लागू हुआ है, तो पहले यह पूरा लागू हो। लागत का जो मूल्य तय होता है, देश के 16 विश्वविद्यालय 20 राज्यों के अन्दर सर्वे करते हैं और उस आधार पर सभी राज्यों के अलग-अलग लागत की कीमत भेजते हैं। एवरेज जो तय होता है, गेहूँ और धान के मामले में महाराष्ट्र और बंगाल ऐसे राज्य हैं, जहाँ जो एवरेज लागत मूल्य तय होता है, उससे ज्यादा है, तो सरकार उन दोनों राज्यों के लिए अलग से योजनाएँ चलाती है जिससे उत्पादन बढ़े, उत्पादकता बढ़े, ताकि लागत कम हो, लेकिन अभी जो डेढ़ गुना किया गया है, इसी कारण सब राज्य अभी इसे खरीद नहीं रहे हैं। अभी माननीय सदस्य पूछ रहे थे। हमने सभी राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्रियों को पत्र दिया है। हमारे सेक्रेटरी ने सभी राज्यों के सचिवों को पत्र दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैंने फोन पर बात भी की। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't answer other things. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, एक मिनट ...**(व्यवधान)**... कि जब भी दलहन-तिलहन का दाम नीचे आये, आप खरीदिए, हम उसकी अनुमति देते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन जो स्वामीनाथन जी ने डेढ़ सौ फीसदी कहा था, वह अभी पहली बार देश में लागू हुआ है। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने साहस किया और कहा कि देश के खजाने पर किसान का अधिकार है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: हम लोग राज्यों के माध्यम से इसे कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सारे राज्यों ने इसे अभी शुरू किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जहाँ तक 200 प्रतिशत का सवाल है, तो अभी तो जो recommendation है, वही पूरे देश में ठीक से लागू हो, हम इसमें लगे हुए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

#### **Direct Benefit Transfer in Fertilizers sector**

\*243. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the procedure for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has

been changed from disbursement of subsidy from receipt of fertilizers in the district to sale of fertilizers to farmers through point of sale machines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the entire fertilizer industry faced immense difficulties in generating DBT bills due to systemic issues;

(c) whether it is also a fact that huge amount of subsidy bills could not be generated by the fertilizer companies by year end and a meagre amount of subsidy payment was released by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House

***Statement***

(a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Fertilizers has implemented Direct Benefit Transfer System across all States/UTs *w.e.f.* March, 2018. Under the DBT system, 100% subsidy on various fertilizer grades is being released to the fertilizer companies, on the basis of actual sales made by the retailers to the beneficiaries through Point of Sale (PoS) devices installed at each retailer shop and the beneficiaries are identified through Aadhaar Card, Kisan Credit Card, Voter Identity Card, etc.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, upon enabling of DBT bill module in the month of March, 2018, few initial hiccups were encountered which were quickly resolved with the help of National Informatics Centre (NIC). DBT bill payment system has now fully stabilized and has been functioning satisfactorily. Since then, all companies have been generating bills on weekly basis and are being paid on weekly basis. On the basis of bills generated by companies as on 31.12.2018, Government has released subsidy of ₹ 9531.6 crore for P&K fertilizers and ₹ 24,137.93 crore for Urea. However, as and when any systemic issue is countered, the same is resolved on priority with the helpdesk established by DoF in collaboration with NIC.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Question No. 243. The questioner is not present. Any supplementaries? Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, this question relates to Direct Benefit Transfer. Direct Benefit Transfer was initiated in 2013 when Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Prime Minister. It meant that the benefits go directly to the beneficiary. The question is on DBT for fertilizer subsidy. I understand that DBT for fertilizer subsidy means benefit goes directly to the farmers. The answer says that DBT is being released to

the fertilizer companies. I am a little confused. DBT meant benefit to farmers but the answer is saying DBT to companies. What is the policy of the Government?

RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, DBT the subsidy policy was conceived and implemented as a pilot project by this Government. In 2016, a few States and a few districts were earmarked for this pilot project's implementation and in March, 2018, the whole country was covered for giving DBT subsidy in the first phase. The first phase envisages that the subsidy will be given to fertilizer companies when the fertilizers are sold to consumers through points of sale at two lakh odd points in the country. The second part of this programme is yet to be implemented and the idea is in the final analysis to give subsidy to the farmer directly itself. For that, the Government has constituted a Committee under the NITI Aayog, which is yet to give its report. Once this first phase is completed, the second phase will be taken up post recommendations received from the Committee that has been set up by the NITI Aayog.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 244.

**Action against cellular companies for call drops**

\*244. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any action is taken against the cellular companies for call drops;
- (b) whether there is any law formulated against this for safeguarding interests of consumers;
- (c) whether there is any case registered against a cellular company; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) through “The Standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2017” dated 18th August, 2017 has prescribed two new parameters for assessment of Drop Call Rate in a mobile network, viz. “Drop Call Rate (DCR) Spatial Distribution Measure” with benchmark value  $\leq 2\%$  and “DCR Temporal Distribution Measure” with benchmark value  $\leq 3\%$ .