[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Source: AHS, DADF

114 Written Answers to

Distribution of new variety seeds to farmers

†1306. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is fully committed to provide all kinds of assistance to the farmers;
 - (b) if so, the details of assistance being provided to the farmers;
- (c) whether new varieties of seeds are being made available to the farmers timely in every block and village; and
- (d) if so, the details of the new varieties of seeds provided to the farmers in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake development of perspective plans and ensure effective implementation of the programmes/schemes. Governent of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/Programmes viz. Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrankshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), 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),

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Interest Subvention Scheme for Short Term Credit to Farmers, Implementation of Market Intervention Scheme-Price Support Scheme, Green Revolution-Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Green Revolution-Krishonnati Yojana (Horticulture), National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm, National Project on Promotion of Organic Farming, National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility, Organic Value Chain Development for NE Region, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture-RADP and Climate Change, Soil and Land Use Survey of India, National Project on Agro-Forestry, Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension, National E-Governance Plan Agriculture Information Technology, Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Material, Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization, Sub-Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine, Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation, Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing, National Food Security Mission, Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census and Statistics, National Rainfed Area authority, National Bamboo Mission, Strengthening Promoting Agriculture Information System, Promotion of Agriculture Mechanization for in-situ Management of Crop Residue etc.

Further, the Government has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all notified Kharif and Rabi Crops and other commercial crops for the season 2018-19 with a return of atleast 50 per cent over cost of production. This decision of the Government was a historic one as it redeemed the promise of fixing the MSPs atleast at a level of 50 per cent return over cost of production as announced in the Union Budget 2018-19.

(c) and (d) Total quantity of certified/ quality Seeds distributed to the farmers in the country including new varieties was 304.04 lakh qtls. in 2015-16, 348.58 lakh qtls. in 2016-17 and 352.01 lakh qtls. in 2017-18.

Agrarian crisis in the country

1307. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps Government proposes to take to restrain the farmers in distress from committing suicide;
- (b) whether any special long-term plan is being worked out to incentivize the farming and farmers in the country;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by Government on the demand raised by various States on resolving agrarian crisis in the country?