

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Toria [^]		3900				
	Other Crops						
1.	Copra (Milling)	4758	6500	36.6	5007	7511	50.0
	(Ball) [^]		6785	42.6		7750	
2.	De-Husked Coconut [^]		1760			2030	
3.	Jute	2160	3500	62.0	2267	3700	63.2
4.	Sugarcane	152	255	67.8	155	275	77.4

* Includes all paid out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc., miscellaneous expenses and imputed value of family labour.

[^] Cost data are not separately compiled for Paddy (Grade A), Jowar (Maldandi), Cotton (Long staple), Toria, Copra (ball) and De-husked coconut.

Source: Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices.

Sustainable farming

1795. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

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

- the per centage of farmers who produce enough to sustain themselves;
- whether Government has schemes to help farmers who are below that level, if so, the details thereof;
- whether various steps taken by Government in the past have made agriculture and industry more unequal; and
- whether Government intends to take corrective measures in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducts 'Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households' from time-to-time to provide a comprehensive assessment of the situation of agricultural households in the country. As per the results of the latest Survey conducted in 2013, a majority of the agricultural households, which possessed land holdings of more than 0.40 hectare, have reported cultivation as their

principal source of income. However, the specific data on per centage of farmers who produce enough to sustain themselves is not available in the Survey.

(b) Agriculture being a State subject, State Governments take appropriate steps for development of agriculture in the State Government of India, however, supplements their efforts through implementation of various schemes/programmes. Support is being provided to various categories of agricultural households through Schemes, like Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Soil Health Card, National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), etc. Government is also promoting horticulture, floriculture, adoption of modern technologies and practices, like multiple cropping and integrated farming systems to supplement agricultural households' income from traditional crops. Besides, Government has adopted the principle of fixing Minimum Support Prices (MSP) at a level of 50 per cent over the all-India weighted average cost of production of crops.

In addition, the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and other Schemes to benefit rural people, including farm workers through creation of employment and livelihood opportunities. These are devised to benefit agricultural households to supplement their income.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has been focusing on making agriculture more profitable and thereby increasing its attractiveness among farmers. Various measures taken by the Government are aimed at improving net returns to the farmers by enabling them to realize higher yields at lower cost and benefit from better market prices. However, the Gross Value Added (GVA) in agriculture and allied sector as a proportion of total GVA in the country has declined overtime, which is considered to be a natural concomitant of the economic growth process.

Subsidy on organic fertilizers

1796. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers engaged in organic farming are unable to afford input cost which is expensive; and

(b) if so, the steps Government is taking to reduce the cost of organic fertilizers and encourage them to use microbes and supply them at subsidised rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Organic farming reduces the cost of cultivation/production by eliminating the use of consumption of