

Transaction under e-NAM platform

6. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of platforms/regulated markets that have been started to fetch best prices for farmers under the e-NAM scheme;
- (b) the total number of farmers and sellers registered under this scheme; and
- (c) the volume and worth of commodities transacted on e-NAM?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) In order to facilitate farmers with remunerative prices for their produce, the Government is implementing National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) Scheme which provides for online competitive bidding facility of agriculture commodities in a transparent manner. So far, 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 Union Territories (UTs) have been integrated with e-NAM platform to fetch best prices for farmers. Till 11.06.2019, a total of 1,64,73,191 farmers have been registered under this scheme. Already trade transactions having total volume of 2,55,84,598.03 MT with total value of ₹ 70096.99 crore, have been recorded on e-NAM platform till 11.06.2019.

Bringing more crops under MSP

7. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to rationalize determination of MSP for various crops in order to make agriculture more remunerative;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government also proposes to bring more crops under the ambit of MSP;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) From time to time, Expert Committees have been constituted to review the methodology for fixation of Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) and to suggest

various features for improvement. Government fixes MSPs of 22 mandated Kharif and Rabi crops for every season and Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), after considering the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned and other relevant factors. In addition, MSP for Toria and De-Husked coconut is also fixed on the basis of MSPs of Rapeseed/Mustard and Copra respectively.

While recommending MSPs, CACP considers important factors like cost of production, overall demand-supply conditions, domestic and international prices, inter-crop price parity, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, the likely effect on the rest of the economy, besides ensuring rational utilisation of productive resources like land and water and a minimum of 50 per cent as the margin over cost of production.

Cost of production is one of the important factors in the determination of MSPs. While recommending its Price policy, the CACP considers all costs in a comprehensive manner. The costs include 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 in cash and kind on the 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. Hence the costs considered are very comprehensive and based on the methodology recommended by Expert Committees from time to time.

The Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSP at levels of one and half times the cost of production. Accordingly, Government has increased MSPs for all mandated crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production for the season 2018-19.

(c) to (e) Currently, there is no proposal to bring more crops under the ambit of MSP. Government announces MSP for those agricultural commodities which are widely grown, have large area under cultivation, items of mass consumption with fairly long shelf life and necessary for maintaining food security. These MSP crops cover approximately 99 per cent of the total agricultural production in the country.

Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for horticultural crops which are perishable in nature and some agricultural crops which are not covered under the MSP on the request of State/UT Governments concerned. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a

bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production.

Increasing crop yield of farmers

†8. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to increase the crop yield of farmers;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) Yes, in order to increase the crop yield of farmers in the country, the Government has been implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) programme since 2007-08. The objectives of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is to increase production of foodgrains through area expansion and productivity enhancement in a sustainable manner in the identified districts of the country, restoring soil fertility and productivity at the individual farm level; and enhancing farm level economy (*i.e.* farm profits) to restore confidence amongst the farmers. The programme is being implemented in identified districts of all the 29 States.

In addition, to enhance the farm level economy, Government of India also supplement the efforts of the States to diversify agricultural/horticultural crops through various schemes/programmes *viz.* Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)/Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)/National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)/Rainfed Area Development (RAD), etc., in the country.

Implementation of various schemes including National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in the country has resulted in increased foodgrain production and food security for the country. The increase in foodgrains production and yield in the last decade is as under:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.