

of the scheme (i) Irrigation cost reduced by 20% to 50% with average of 32.3%. (ii) Electricity consumption reduced by about 31%. (iii) Average productivity of fruits and vegetables increased by about 42.3 % and 52.8%. (iv) Overall income enhancement of farmers was in the range of 20% to 68% with an average of 48.5%.

Soil Health Card Scheme: Two impact evaluation studies have been conducted for Soil Health Card Scheme. The first study was by the National Productivity Council (NPC) in February 2016 and the 2nd study was conducted by MANAGE, Hyderabad in 2017. Constant improvement is carried out in scheme design and implementation based on such studies.

Doubling farmers income

2091. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is committed to doubling the farmers' income by 2022;
- (b) if so, whether the agriculture import-export Policy is in accordance with it; and
- (c) whether import would boost our farmers' income?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The Government is striving to double the farmers' income by 2022. The Agriculture Export Policy, 2018 strives to increase India's Agriculture and allied exports which in turn would help in achieving the goal of doubling the farmers' income by 2022.

(c) Imports of Agriculture produce would not boost farmers' income. However imports of inputs and other material which aid in improving the productivity, introduction of new varieties etc. may boost the farmers' income.

Expenditure on PM-Kisan yojana

†2092. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers who have been benefited under 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana' in the country so far; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the financial expenditure incurred by Government under this scheme so far, and expenditure likely to be incurred by 2022?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) As on 30-11-2019, around 7.6 crore farmers in the country have been granted benefit under the 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana'.

(b) As on 30-11-2019 an amount of around ₹36,000 crores has been disbursed under the Scheme. Since the Scheme is ongoing and beneficiaries are added on a continuous basis, it is not possible to give estimation of expenditure till 2022.

Impact of surplus food on doubling farmer's income

2093. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that food surpluses have led to dip in farmer's income;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this has badly affected Government's ambitious plan to double the farmer's income by 2022; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) There is no apparent co-relation between food surpluses and farmer's income as despite having surplus food grains procurement in central pool has been on increasing trend which indicates that out-reach of MSP is increasing.

Minimum Support Price (MSP) of food grains is announced by the Government of India at the beginning of the sowing season of crops on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) based on the input costs and margin to farmers.

Minimum Support Price of Paddy and Wheat is fixed by GOI every year to ensure remuneration of best possible price to the farmers. While there is increase in the MSP over the years, there has also been an increase in the procurement of rice and wheat