

Introduction of sophisticated technology in farming

1296. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the plans of Government to encourage and introduce sophisticated technology in farming to the grassroot farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if no plans are there, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Improved agricultural implements and machinery are essential inputs for modern agriculture. It enhances productivity besides reducing human drudgery and cost of cultivation. It also helps in improving utilization efficiency of other inputs.

(b) Taking into consideration the above, to boost the farm mechanization in the country, a special dedicated scheme Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) has been introduced by Government, under which subsidy is provided for purchase of various types of Agricultural implements and machinery used for tillage, sowing, planting, harvesting, reaping, threshing, plant protection, inter cultivation and residue management.

A special scheme to support the efforts of the Governments of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi to address air pollution due to stubble burning and to subsidize machinery for the farmers for in-situ management of crop residue, a new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' (CRM) for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 has been also launched.

Besides above, Government has also introduced and formulated various schemes to promote the use of modern farming technology in agriculture in the country such as integrated farming system/cropping system with appropriate resource conservation technologies; development of high yielding pest/disease tolerant crop varieties/hybrids; water use efficiency enhancement through micro irrigation; soil test based balanced

and judicious use of fertilizers; dissemination of agriculture related information to the farming community through various ICT enabled delivery channels including SMSs, internet kiosks, farmers portals etc.; scientific storagae of both perishable and non-perishable produce; precision farming; promotion of latest technologies on crops specific cultivation; protected cultivation of horticultural products, organic farming, etc.

The various schemes introduced by Government to promote the use of modern farming technology in agriculture in the country are as below:—

- (i) Sub Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE)
 - (ii) Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)
 - (iii) Sub Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (SMPP)
 - (iv) Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)
 - (v) National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
 - (vi) National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)
 - (vii) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
 - (viii) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)
 - (ix) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR)
 - (x) Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi.
- (c) Does not arise.

Cash transfer of fertilizer subsidy

1297. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some farmers' unions have opposed Government's decision for cash transfer of fertilizer subsidy;