

minimum fixed pension of ₹ 3000/- will be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years.

Agitation by farmers in Jammu and Kashmir

1314. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers of Jammu and Kashmir are agitating for getting fair value and transportation for their premium crops such as apples, saffron, peaches and walnuts grown in the valley;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for assuring farmers fair value for their premium crops, which reaches all parts of the country by involving NABARD?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) No such information has been reported.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No scheme is envisaged involving NABARD, however, Government through Central Nodal Agency *i.e.* NAFED is procuring apples from willing apple growers in Jammu and Kashmir at remunerative prices fixed by Designated Price Committees, by exempting the provisions contained in the extant guidelines of Market Intervention Scheme as a one-time measure.

Unequal use of fertilizers and pesticides

1315. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is unequal use of fertilizers and pesticides in different parts of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether this unequal use of fertilizers and pesticides is due to any unavoidable skewed programming, if so, the details thereof; and