

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) National Council on Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has conducted a study on the likely impact of agriculture trade reforms on the consumption expenditure of the poor.

Based on the nominal protection or effective protection co-efficients used in a study published in 1998, one of the findings of the present study is that trade liberalization in agriculture may lead to increase in prices of cereals and decline in prices of pulse, edible oil and arhar. This, according to the study may cause adverse impact on the poorer segment of the society.

However, the conclusions in the study are based on the following assumption:

1. Distribution of consumption expenditure across commodities is of the period 1994-95;
2. Nominal or effective protection co-efficients are taken from a study published in 1998; and
3. The results are based on partial equilibrium frame work which does not take into account income gains resulting from liberalization.

The other main finding of the survey is that the role of Public Distribution System (PDS) may become more important in this scenario.

As can be seen, this is a study constrained in its findings due to the overbearing assumptions.

The import of agricultural products is being closely monitored by the Government so that the trade liberalization do not cause any adverse impact either on consumers or on producers. The Government has been undertakings various schemes in order to increase the production of cereals, pulses and oilseeds.

KVKs In Southern States

5408. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and other Southern States have requested to sanction new Krishi Vigyan Kendras; and
- (b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has received the requests from the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to sanction new Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK).

(b) Out of the proposai received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for sanction of new KVKs in six districts, the Council has strengthened the existing Zonal Agricultural Research Stations (ZARS) in Adilabad and Prakasham districts to take up the additional functions of KVKs under Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University. The Council has also restructured/readjusted the functioning of the KVK located at Nandiyal under the administrative control of University to implement its activities in the adjoining Cuddapah district. A new KVK has also been sanctioned for Krishna district recently. The Council do not have any proposal for establishment of KVK in Khammam and Nizamabad districts at present.

There are seven newly formed districts in Karnataka. Out of which, Gadag and Haveri districts have Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK). The Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS) in Udupi district has been strengthened to take up the additional functions of KVK under National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP). Other four new districts, viz. Chamarajanagara, Koppal, Bagalkote and Devanagre are covered with the existing KVKs/ZARSs in the original districts from which these have been newly created.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, proposal has been received for establishment of KVKs in Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Vellore districts. The Council has requested the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University for availability of suitable land for establishment of KVK in Tiruvarur district. The Council do not have any proposal for establishment of KVKs in Nagapattinam and Vellore districts.

Spreading scheme of chitrakoot farmer

5409. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, in Chitrakoot, a farmer, who even holds two and a half acre of land, even after meeting all his expenses, saves about Rs.5000/- a year;