

Regarding fixation of MSP for mangoes-laid

DR. A. CHELLAKUMAR (KRISHNAGIRI): In Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu more than 6000 farmers are cultivating mangoes and thousands of people are involved indirectly in the activity. More than 10 Lakh tons of mangoes are produced every year. We have more than 50 Mango pulp manufacturing food processing industries there. More than 3.5 lakh tons of mango pulps are produced and transported throughout India and are being exported globally every year. Government of India from early 80's are supporting the food processing industries in crores as subsidies, But the plight of Mango growers are very pathetic. Industries make a cartel and squeeze the farmers by fixing throwaway purchase prices in the seasons and for the farmers to sell their sweat and blood even for 10 Rs/kilo of mangoes. In the same time during off season, the same industries buy mangoes even at 80 Rs/Kg that means even if they buy at Rs 80/kilo also they can make profit out of it. This all happens with the farmers because of non-availability of MSP for mangoes. I request the Ministry to kindly announce MSP price for mangoes as per the variety and save the farmers from distress and establish cottage industries for manufacturing the by-products including cold storages.