

Regarding implementation of M.S. Swaminathan Commission Report

SHRI M. SELVARAJ (NAGAPATTINAM): The Agrarian distress has led the farmers to commit suicide in recent years. The major causes of the agrarian crisis are: unfinished agenda in land reform, quantity adequacy, timeless institutional credit and opportunities for assured and remunerative marketing. Adverse meteorological factors add to these problems. To redress the farmers' problem, the National Commission for Farmers (NCF) was established by the Union Government on November, 18, 2004 under the Chairmanship of Professor M.S. Swaminathan and it submitted four reports in December 2004, August 2005, December, 2005, and April 2006. The fifth and final study, which examined the reasons behind farmers anguish and the spike in suicides was delivered on October 4th, 2006. The Report covers findings and recommendations related to agricultural productivity, farmers competitiveness, employment, food security, irrigation, credit, insurance and made suggestions to achieve the goal of "fast and inclusive growth". Further, the NCF recommends that "Agriculture" be inserted in the Concurrent List of the Constitution. But, even after 16 years has passed, the Union Government has not taken any serious efforts to implement it in full-fledged manner and is not showing any interest in implementing MSP (Minimum Support Price) to all agriculture products. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to take necessary actions to implement M.S. Swaminathan's report and its recommendation to uplift the life of all farmers across the country and in the interest of the country.

