

**Swaminathan Committee on Exports of Perishable Agricultural Commodities**

9625. SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Swaminathan Committee on Exports of Perishable Agricultural Commodities has finalised its report;

(b) if so, the items identified by the Committee for increased production and protection of prices; and

(c) the decisions of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir. The Swaminathan Group was appointed not on Exports of perishable commodities but to examine the problem of fluctuating prices of perishable commodities in all aspects. The Group has submitted its major recommendations to the Government in March, 1981. However, the Group hopes to submit its detailed final report by 15th May, 1981.

(b) To begin with the Group has, for tackling the problems of producers as well as consumers, identified 12

commodities viz. potatoes, onions, cauliflower, cabbage, tomatoes, ginger, pineapple, apple, orange, mango, grapes and turmeric.

(c) The major recommendations of the Group are under examination.

**Recommendations of Technical Expert Committee on VFC Tobacco**

9626. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations of the Technical Expert Committee on VFC tobacco;

(b) whether Government have examined the implication of these recommendations; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in respect thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (c). The recommendations made by the Technical Expert Committee on VFC Tobacco were examined by the Government. The recommendations requiring action and the action taken thereon are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Action taken or proposed to be taken on recommendations of the Technical Expert Committee*

**Recommendations****Action taken/proposed to be taken**

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| 1. It is necessary to undertake a study on the assessment of credit taken by the farmers from different sources and the interest rate charged thereon as also the period for which it is charged. | A similar recommendation has also been made by the Special Experts Committee on Cost of Production Estimates. The recommendations of the above Committee are under active consideration of the Government of India. This recommendation shall also be implemented alongwith the recommendations of the Special Experts Committee after their approval. |
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Recommendation	Action taken/proposed to be taken
<p>2. The DES (Directorate of Economic and Statistics) figure of average crop yield is bound differ from the Boards estimate due to differences in the methodology of estimation. The DES estimates are by and large acceptable being based on a large sample of cultivators. However, the data base for estimating crop yields would be stronger if crop cutting experiments are conducted. The feasibility of using this method in future cost studies by the DES may be explored.</p>	<p>This matter was considered in detail and a link up between crop-cutting experiments scheme and cost studies was not found to be feasible.</p>
<p>3. If a farmer operates as a manager as well as labourer, an imputation for managerial functions should be included in the costing.</p>	<p>This question was also examined by the Special Expert Committee whose recommendations are under consideration.</p>
<p>4. In the existing cost studies by DES the cost is calculated upto the farm harvest level. If the same is to be calculated at the market level the marketing cost should also be added. Estimation of marketing cost needs a separate study.</p>	<p>It has been already decided that while making recommendations on procurement/support prices the Agricultural Prices Commission would take into consideration the cost of transport of produce from the field/village to the procurement centre or mandi etc. Preliminary effort for collecting data on transport cost has already been started.</p>
<p>5. The Committee recommends that steps should be taken for standardisation of grades of tobacco crop as the existence of different grades as at present creates confusion in the market, giving scope for exploitation through manipulating the grading of the crop.</p>	<p>The Tobacco Board has evolved 8 new farm grades for tobacco grown in black soil areas at farmer's level and is streamlining the systems for grading of VFC tobacco grown in light soil areas.</p>
<p>6. As regards deriving individual cost of production for various grades of the crop there is no ready made solution. The Problem may be referred to the Special Expert Committee (Under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Sen) for detailed study.</p>	<p>No solution has been received in this regard.</p>
<p>7. The realistic remunerative or export price should take into account several factors such as areas in which the produce was grown, its quality etc., besides the cost of production or cultivation. Bringing the crop under regulated market Act is also recommended.</p>	<p>Minimum export prices for various agmark grades of VFC tobacco are fixed by the Government every year after taking into consideration factors like estimated production and its quality in our country, cost of production and supply position in the world.</p>

## Recommendation

## Action taken/proposed to be taken

- Regarding bringing the tobacco under regulated market Act it may be stated that under the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 as amended, the Tobacco Board is empowered to establish auction platforms for sale of VFC Tobacco.
8. Regarding the extent of 'Profit' to be granted to the farmer the Committee felt that it should not be connected with specific crop alone. It should be considered in the context of other competing crops in the holding as well as other farm activities.
- Subsequent to the submission of the report of the Technical Expert Committee, the Special Expert Committee (Sen Committee) also examined the issue of profit. Recommendations of the Sen Committee are receiving consideration.

**D. D. A. Flats in Trilokpuri****Release of Director Housing, DDA from his Post**

9627. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY:  
Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the DDA flats in Trilokpuri are in low lying area and people are afraid of opting to those flats for the fear of floods etc. during rainy season;

(b) whether the Vice-Chairman, DDA has declared that the flats would be sold by February, 1981 and if so, the method proposed to dispose of the flats especially when the registered persons are not willing to opt for those flats;

(c) whether there is any proposal with the Government to remove the apprehensions of the prospective buyers of DDA flats in Trilokpuri and provide better civic amenities to them; and

(d) whether DDA is incurring a huge loss since it is not able to dispose of these flats?

9628. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:  
Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the specific charges and the circumstances under which the Director Housing of DDA was relieved of his job orally;

(b) what are the comments of the Vice-Chairman of DDA on the reports published in the press on this subject;

(c) that a copy of the entire correspondence between the Director housing and the Vice-Chairman, DDA is placed on the table of House; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for not doing so?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND  
HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN  
SINGH): (a) to (d). The information  
is being collected and will be laid on  
the Table of the House.

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