

Regarding fixing of viability price for farmers-laid

SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI (ELURU): I would like to bring it to the attention of the Hon?ble Minister of Commerce and Industry that the present Viability price of the Government of India is favourable to the processors at the cost of the farmers. In Andhra Pradesh and Telangana OER is 19.32% plus the share of the nuts. The Viability Price of the Government of India, excluded the share of the nuts to the farmers. I request the Government of India for a reconsideration of the viability price in the interests of the farmers and edible oil self sufficiency and include the share of nuts in the viability price, which were hitherto shared with the farmers. The Cost of Cultivation reported by Karnataka Prices Commission for the year 2020 is Rs 14980 per ton. But the viable price of Government of India for 2022?23 is Rs. 13349 per ton. This price is unfair and the oil palm farmers are bearing a negative subsidy burden for their oil palm FFBS. Due to the doubling of the price of fertilizer and labour in the recent past, the cost of cultivation is itself Rs 18000/ton and Oil Palm farmers need a minimum remunerative price of Rs 20,000/ton to retain this crop. Otherwise, farmers would be forced to uproot the plantations as has happened in the past.