

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3594

ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001

SALE OF ORGANS BY FARMERS

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government are aware that farmers in various parts of the country whose crops have either been damaged or not getting the remunerative price have now started selling their organs such as kidney etc., for their survival;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Government to mitigate the problems of farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y.NAIK)

(a)to(c): The prices of some agricultural commodities have declined during the last one year or so. The Government has already taken corrective steps to mitigate the problems of farmers and these include fixation of minimum support prices of major agricultural commodities and procurement thereof through public and cooperative agencies; implementation of market intervention scheme (MIS) covering horticultural and minor items of produce at the request of the State Governments and using instruments of trade to discourage imports and encourage exports.

To provide financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of their crops due to natural calamities a Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) was introduced in 1985. The scheme remained under implementation till Kharif 1999. To enlarge the coverage in terms of farmers (loanee and non-loanee both), more crops and more risk, Government of India have introduced a new scheme titled "National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)" in the country from Rabi 1999-2000.