

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:234

ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MUSTARD GROWERS IN DISTRESS

Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to extend financial assistance to the mustard growers in distress;
- (b) if so, the schemes proposed to be launched for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the Minimum Support Price of mustard and other oil seeds; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): The Government of India already provides financial assistance to the farmers including mustard growers under a Centrally Sponsored integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds growing States of the country. Under ISOPOM, the assistance is provided to the farmers/oilseeds growers including mustard growers for critical inputs viz; distribution of certified seeds, demonstrations, plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipment, weedicides, rhyzobium culture, gypsum, sprinkler sets, water carrying pipes, improved farm implements and micro-nutrients etc. through State Departments of Agriculture. The expenditure on subsidy of these components is shared between Central and State Government on 75:25 basis. Besides this, certified seed of oilseeds including mustard varieties/hybrids released during last 10 years is distributed to the farmers in form of seed minikits free of cost through State Departments of Agriculture.

(c)&(d): The Government declared Minimum Support Price (MSP) of mustard at Rs.1800.00 per quintal during 2007-08. The Government has also announced MSP of other Kharif oilseeds viz; groundnut, sunflower, soybean, sesame and niger for 2008-09.