

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4035

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012

NMAY

Choudhary Shri Harish; Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben; Rao Shri Nama Nageswara; Shukla Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Balu Shukla; Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.; Veljibhai Jat Poonamben

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has taken decision to modify the Namak Mazdoor Awas Yojana (NMAY) on the request of various State Governments in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the projects alongwith the financial assistance provided by the Government for the development of salt industry/workers;
- (c) whether Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute and Salt Commissioner have developed Model Salt Farms in Gujarat;
- (d) if so, the salient features of the projects along with the financial assistance to be provided by the Union Government, State-wise;
- (e) the details of salt production and prices in the country during the last three years alongwith steps taken by the Government to enhance the production of salt; and
- (f) Whether the Government has provided remunerative prices to the salt producers/farmers and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): The Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute (CSMCRI) has reportedly established Model Salt Farms in Gujarat with the help of NGOs and the State Government. The Salt Commissioner has provided assistance to set up Model Salt Farms in Nawa (Rajasthan) and Ganjam (Odisha) by contributing one-third cost of the project while the remaining amount was shared by the respective State Government and CSMCRI. A Model Salt Farm in Markanam (Tamil Nadu) has been recently sanctioned for which two-third of the cost would be met by the Salt Commissioner and one-third by CSMCRI.

(e): The details of production of common salt and sale price in the country during the last three years are as follows:

S.No.	Year	Production (in lakh ton)	Sale price of salt per kilogram
1	2009-10	239.51	Re.1/- to Rs.12/-
2	2010-11	186.10	Re.1/- to Rs.14/-
3	2011-12 (up to February, 2012)	198.75	Re.1/- to Rs.14/-

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry monitors the overall development of salt industry through the Office of the Salt Commissioner. This Office promotes production of salt through technology upgradation, conducting training programmes for salt workers and providing technical support and oversight to the salt industry.

(f): Price of salt is determined by market forces and is not regulated by the Central Government. Minimum wages for salt workers are fixed by concerned State Governments.