GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4578 ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015 SALE OF ORGAN BY FARMERS Ram Mohan Naidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the report regarding selling of organs by farmers in Andhra Pradesh to escape debt trap;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

- (a):No, Madam.
- (b):Does not arise.
- (c):Farmers are indebted to both institutional and non-institutional sources of credit. However, borrowing from non-institutional sources is the major reason for debt related farmers distress. In order to reduce the dependence of farmers on private money lenders for meeting their credit needs and for providing relief to the indebted farmers, Government has taken several measures to increase institutional credit flow and bringing more and more farmers including small and marginal farmers within the institutional credit fold.

These measures, inter alia, includes fixation of annual targets for improving agricultural credit flow, provision of crop loans upto Rs.3.00 lakh @ 4% per annum to such farmers who repay their loan as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks, extension of benefit of interest subvention scheme to small & marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period upto six months for storing their produce in warehouses against negotiable warehouse receipts, collateral free loan upto Rs.1.00 lakh, scheme for financing of Joint Liability Group (JLGs) etc. Government also announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) in respect of major agricultural produce with a view to ensure that farmers get remunerative prices.