

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1341

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2015

Agricultural Projects

Tadas Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has organised a meeting with the Ministers of State Governments in Delhi on Food inflation and discussed the issues to deal with the situation arising out of Monsoon as well as the various ongoing/pending agricultural programmes/projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the action plan formulated by the Government for tackling the situation arising out of weak Monsoon, crop protection and for providing assistance to the farmers in the country; and

(c) the details of the fund allocated and spent by the Government on the ongoing/ pending agriculture projects and for creating awareness among the farmers in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

???? ???????? ??? ????? ?????? (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. A State Food Minister's meeting was organized on 07.07.2015 at Delhi and the following Action Plan got adopted at the meeting to contain price rise of essential food items:

â€¢ Sustained action will be initiated against hoarding and black-marketing and States will undertake effective enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black Marketing Act.

â€¢ States will identify vulnerable areas where supply shortages occur and ensure that "stock out" situations do not appear especially of items of common consumption.

â€¢ States will mobilize existing storage capacity utilizing the government/private/co-operative storage infrastructure to ensure that adequate decentralized stocks are maintained across different cities/rural areas of the State to fortify adequate supplies of these commodities. States will also mobilize Food & Civil Supplies Corporations, Co-operative Societies and Fair Price Shops for augmenting distribution channels for essential food items.

Contdâ€¢2/-

-2-

â€¢ The existing "Price Monitoring Cells" in the States will be strengthened to monitor the prices of these specific commodities on the basis of wholesale prices at the mandis, as well as the retail prices obtaining in various parts of the State. This should enable the States to make market interventions on a real time basis.

â€¢ Review of APMC Act with reference to onions, potatoes and tomatoes to remove inter-State barriers to internal trade will be taken up.

â€¢ The meeting recognized the importance of the effective implementation of National Food Security Act in all the States, which is yet to be implemented by 24 States. These States were requested to ensure implementation of the Act at the earliest.

(c): A statement reflecting State-wise / UT wise allocation and expenditure in respect of the ongoing schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) during last three years and current year is annexed. One of the programme is "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms", which is a part of Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension under National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology (NMAET) creating awareness among the farmers of the country through training, demonstration, exposure visits, kisan melas, mobilization of farmer groups and setting up of farmer schools.