

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:323

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015

Awareness amongst Students for Agricultural Practices

Paswan Shri Chirag;Singh Shri Bharatendra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government to increase interest/awareness amongst students towards agricultural practices which may increase large scale employment opportunities in the agriculture sector;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to introduce minimum per hectare per month income to farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the various steps taken by the Government to make agriculture as an income generating profession?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under its XII Plan Scheme "Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India" have initiated a programme of 'student READY. The programme aims to provide entrepreneurship awareness, practical experience in real-life situations in rural agriculture and creating awareness among undergraduate students for a better career in agriculture sector through one year exclusively exercise in terms of Experiential Learning, Hands-on training (Skill development), Inplant industry attachment training, Rural Awareness work experience and student projects. In addition, Skill and Entrepreneurship development are also being provided through Agri Clinic, Agri Business incubation centres, Attracting & Retaining Youth in Agriculture Schemes (ARYA) and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.

(b) & (c): There is no such proposal, however, Government has been announcing Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 22 crops and Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for Sugarcane to ensure that farmers get a minimum price on their produce.

(d) Government have launched a number of farmer-friendly schemes to make agriculture as income-generating profession such as National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm; National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture; National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology; Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture; Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing; Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF); Soil Health Card Scheme; Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana; National Agriculture Market through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF); Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Farmers FIRST and Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA) under ICAR, National Livestock Mission with 'Sub-Mission on Skill Development Technology Transfer & Extension' in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries (DAHD&F). These schemes also have an in-built component of skill building and training of farmers in the field of agriculture and allied sectors aimed at increasing agriculture production and income generation.
