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Title : Need to provide financial package and scientific inputs for the benefits of farmers in Kashmir.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN (BARAMULLA): The income level to genuine farmers in Kashmir has considerably fallen and returns in the smaller land holdings under horticulture cultivation also have come down to the level of no profit, even the input costs are not recovered in many cases. The small farmers on one hand and comparatively bigger farmers on the other are also highly upset because the labour intensive farming with less returns have derailed their management planning of their farms. With the reasonably high demand in the extracts of Kashmir brand aromatic plants and some of the rare species of medicinal plants abroad have created a hope in the farming community. In order to promote the smooth transition to diversification of crops in Kashmir, Agriculture Ministry must come forward with financial package and scientific inputs through its different agencies like CSIR and other scientific bodies so that the success story of crop diversification in Kashmir become a standard bearer for other States.

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