GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.806**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 28/06/2019

**EFFECT OF CROP DIVERSIFICATION SCHEME ON PADDY PRODUCTION**

806. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

(a) whether the State Government of Haryana has launched a Crop Diversification Scheme wherein the farmers have opted out of planting paddy on 7443 hectares of land in the State;

(b) if so, the details of response of the Central Government on the scheme;

(c) if so, the effects that non-plantation of paddy is going to have on the production of paddy; and

(d) if so, the details of alternatives to less production of paddy?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**( SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)**

(a): State Government of Haryana has launched a pilot scheme for substituting paddy by maize and pulses under Crop Diversification Programme for 50,000 hectare in 7 districts of the state for the year 2019-20.

(b): The Original Green Revolution States are facing problem of soil fertility deterioration and over exploitation of ground water. Crops diversification is intended to promote technological innovations for sustainable agriculture and enable farmers to choose alternative crops. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is implementing Crop Diversification Programme in Original Green Revolution States *viz*: Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh, a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) since 2013-14 to divert the area of water intensive paddy crop to alternative crops. Besides, DAC&FW is also supplementing the efforts of the state governments through implementation of various crop development programmes for promotion of agriculture/horticulture crops like pulses, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, oilseeds, cotton, fruits, vegetables etc.

(c) & (d): Meager reduction in production of paddy resulting from its replacement with alternative crops would not affect the overall foodgrain production due to increase in production of alternative crops. Under Crop Diversification Programme, a sub scheme of RKVY, states may take alternative crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, cotton and agro forestry. Maize and pluses are the alternative crops suitably adopted by the state like Haryana under state pilot scheme of Crop Diversification Programme during 2019-20.

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