

ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE 24, AKBAR ROAD, NEW DELHI COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Highlights of Press Briefing

08 December, 2020

Shri Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Former Chief Minister & Leader of Opposition Haryana, addressed the media at AICC Hdqrs, today.

श्री भूपेंद्र सिंह हुड्डा ने पत्रकारों को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि जो सारे देश से किसान आंदोलन कर रहे हैं, जाति, धर्म, इलाकावाद सबसे ऊपर उठकर, हर किसान आज इसमें शामिल है, चिंतित है और उनका जो आज बंद का कॉल था, जो अब तक रिपोर्ट आए हैं हमारे पास, पूरी तरह से कामयाब है और हर संगठन से, चाहे वो ट्रांसपोर्ट हो, चाहे पेट्रोल पंप के हों या दूसरी ट्रेड यूनियन हो, सब संगठनों से उसको समर्थन मिल रहा है। इसका मतलब ये है कि आज क्योंकि किसान खुशहाल नहीं है, तो कोई खुशहाल नहीं होगा। किसान खुशहाल है तो सब खुशहाल होंगे। चाहे वो छोटा दुकानदार है, चाहे व्यापारी है, चाहे ट्रांसपोर्टर है, चाहे और ऑपरेटर है, सबकी इकॉनमी किसान से जुड़ी है क्योंकि हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है। अमेरिका की तरह, ये जो लोग सोच रहे हैं कि अमेरिका में एमएसपी नहीं है, अमेरिका की पॉलिसी दूसरी है। वहाँ तो सब सिर्फ एक पॉलिसी पर चलते हैं, get big or quit, that is not possible in India. वो हमारे यहाँ संभव नहीं है। क्योंकि more than 50 % इम्पलोयमेंट जो है, वो कृषि क्षेत्र देता है, देश के लोगों को, 50 प्रतिशत ज्यादा इम्पलोयमेंट और किसी क्षेत्र में इतनी इम्पलोयमेंट नहीं मिल सकती।

आज का मुद्दा ये है कि जो ये सरकार तीन कानून लेकर आई है और जो किसान में आक्रोश है और इस बात से बैचेनी है, वो ये है कि ये तीनों कानून एक दूसरे से लिंक्ड हैं और किसान के हित में नहीं है। ये किसान विरोधी हैं। अगर आपने पढ़ा हो, 14 अगस्त को मैंने आर्टिकल लिखा था 'ट्रिब्यून' अखबार में और उसमें मैंने अच्छी तरह से एक्सप्लेन किया था कि इन तीनों का मतलब क्या है। पहले मान लो हरियाणा- पंजाब का मैं लेता हूं, एक ही मार्केट थी, एपीएमसी मार्केट। अब इनसे दो मार्केट बन गई हैं। एक एपीएमसी का यार्ड, उसकी मार्केट और आउट साइड that, वो दूसरी मार्केट है। दो मार्केट हो गई। इसका मतलब ये है कि एपीएमसी में तो सरकार ने भी कहा है कि हम एमएसपी लागू करेंगे और लागू रखेंगे। एपीएमसी में तो टैक्स लगेगा, मार्केट फीस भी लगेगी और एमएसपी भी लागू होगी। एमएसपी भी सरकार देगी, लेकिन जो इस मार्केट से बाहर है, जो फ्री है, उस पर कोई एमएसपी लागू नहीं होगी, कोई एमएसपी नहीं है। यहाँ तक कि एसेंशियल जो तीसरा इन्होंने बनाया है, एसेंशियल कमोडिटी है, उसमें होर्डिंग की कोई लिमिट ही नहीं रखी, जिसमें मतलब आलू, प्याज ऐसी चीजें है, जो आम आदमी को, गरीब आदमी को कनेक्ट करती है उसमें। तो

इससे क्या नुकसान होगा किसान का कि जब भी फसल आएगी, क्रोप आएगी उसकी, तो बल्क में आती है, उसकी सस्ती बिकेगी। एमएसपी मिलने का तो सवाल ही पैदा नहीं होता, एमएसपी से बाहर करेंगे और कॉन्ट्रैक्ट फार्मिंग करेंगे या ओपन मार्केट में बेचेंगे। एमएसपी से ऊपर बिके तो ठीक है, लेकिन वो होने वाला नहीं है, तो उससे क्या होगा और जो कोर्पोरेट होर्डिंग होगी, बड़े बड़े कोर्पोरेट, बड़ी बड़ी होर्डिंग करेंगे और वो होर्डिंग करके सप्लाई और डिमांड इसके बेस पर अपनी कीमत बढ़ाते रहेंगे। उदाहरण के तौर पर मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं, मेरे पास उसकी रिसीप्ट भी है।

हमारे यहाँ आलू की मंडी है पिपली में, सबसे ज्यादा आलू पैदा वहाँ होता है। एक बार मैं वहाँ गया था, एक किसान मेरे पास आया और Almost there were tears in his eyes. और उसने मुझे रसीद दी, मैंने कहा क्या हुआ – कहा 9 पैसे किलो आलू बेच कर आया हूं। उसके बाद मार्केट में क्या होता है। मार्केट में 50, 60 रुपए उसकी कीमत होनी है। तो मेरा ये है कि this is the time for Government to act, सारे किसान उसमें है, ये कहते हैं रिफोर्म के लिए लाए हैं हम। ठीक है, I agree, कुछ रिफोर्म की जरुरत है। But in these acts, जो इन्होंने कानून पास किए हैं, उसमें कोई रिफोर्म की रिफ्लेक्शन नहीं है। They should withdraw these laws और पार्लियामेंट का सत्र बुलाकर चर्चा कर लें, क्या रिफोर्म लाना चाहते हैं। अगर ऐसा लगता है, it is in the interest of farmers, they would welcome it, जैसे कॉन्ट्रैक्ट फार्मिंग का है।

मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं, It is not today, but on 9th August, 2007, this is a notification of Government of India, not Government of Haryana, कॉन्ट्रैक्ट फार्मिंग का बेसिक रुल बनाया हमने, रुल (6), I will read it - rule - (6), ये अब तक लागू है हरियाणा में और this is for whole state, मार्केट एपीएमसी whole state was covered by APMC Act. तो उसका रुल 6 जो हमने रिफोर्म किया था - (6) The contract farming agreement between the contract farming sponsor and contract farming producer shall be in Form C-I and it shall be got registered with the District Marketing Enforcement Officer concerned in the presence of both the parties, When they sign, producer and contractor इन्फोर्समेंट ऑफिसर के सामने साइन होगा which will be APMC, मतलब मार्केटिंग बोर्ड का ऑफिसर होता है, डेजिग्नेट किया जाता है, The agreed rate/contract rate shall not be less than Minimum Support Price of the proceeding year. The buyer shall deposit an amount up to 15% of the total price of the agricultural produce as per agreed rate or minimum support price (if the rate is not agreed upon) or bank guarantee for the sum with the committee in which the land is situated as security. There are two types of crop. एक में मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस है, एक में नहीं Where there is no minimum support price and no agreed rate, the amount of security shall be calculated at the rate of 15% of the prevailing market rate at the time of agreement. The security shall be released within a period of thirty days after the date of satisfactory

performance of the agreement. इसका यही मतलब था कि किसान को कोई एक्सप्लोइट नहीं कर पाएगा और मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस से कम कॉन्ट्रैक्ट नहीं करेगा, that has to be signed, तो अब जो आया है, उसमें ऐसा कोई प्रोविजन नहीं है, ऐसी सेफ्टी किसान की नहीं है। that is why on 14th August, जो मैंने आर्टिकल लिखा था, उसका मैंने कहा था कि तीन कानून लाए हैं। अगर इनको आप छोड़ो, अगर इनको रिफोर्म के शेप में लाते हैं, तो चौथा कानून और बना दें साथ में कि जो भी मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस से कम खरीदेगा, He should be punishable in law, हमने तो सिक्योरिटी रखी थी उस टाइम, कोई कर ही नहीं सकता था। that is the thing और अब ये कहते हैं कि कांग्रेस के घोषणा पत्र में है एपीएमसी के बारे में, that is all misinterpretation, बल्कि आप जाओ हरियाणा में। हमारा लिखने का मतलब ये है कि फार्मर मार्केट नाम की बात और उसको और एक्सटेंड किया जाए, nearest to farmers पहुंचाया जाए, ताकि लोजिस्टिक, जो उस पर वजन पड़ता है, वो कम हो जाए और हमने किया है। If you go to my village, having only, may be population of 10,000, my own village, but there is purchase centre of APMC, so after every 10 kilometer, 8 kilometer, we have provided purchase center. We want to go to near to farmers ताकि उसके ऊपर लोजिस्टिक वो हो और परचेज सेंटर जो है वो एपीएमसी के अंदर होते हैं। So, that was the intention and still that is the only solution. अब ये बिहार में कहते हैं कि 6 प्रतिशत एमएसपी लेते हैं, बैनिफिट लेते हैं। यहाँ पर पंजाब और हरियाणा में ज्यादा है, because बिहार में there is no extension of APMC Market, जैसे हमारे यहाँ है। हमारे यहाँ every 5- 6-7 km, we have provided purchase center और मैंने तो उस टाइम पर सब जितनी मंडियां थी एपीएमसी की, बड़ी मंडियां, उनमें फार्मर्स मंडी बना दी थी। कैसे बनाई थी- थोडे-थोड़े बूथ बना दिए थे। बूथ का ये काम था कि फॉर्मर मानो अपनी सब्जी लाता था, खुद लाए, बूथ में रखे सुबह, शाम को बेच कर चला जाए। that is the way the farmers can be helped और this is my report, report of Working Group on Agricultural Production of which I was the Chairman and with me Chief Minister of Punjab, Chief Minister of Bihar and West Bengal, they were the members. तो ये अभी कहते हैं कि कुछ हुआ नहीं, तो I can say कि what was my recommendation which has been implemented one of them is जो एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर में है, जो flow of Agriculture Credit उसको मेरी ये रिकमंडेशन थी -Flow of agriculture credit has not been uniform across States, even within States, there are marked differences between credit flow to developed districts and districts closer to urban centers as compared to under-developed Districts. Institutional Development across States is priority area for equitable flow of credit. Credit should be made available at no more than 4% per annum rate of interest. Did you see what was happening in Haryana? जो शोर्ट टर्म लोन किसान को मिलता है, at rate of interest of 12% then there were subventions, करते-करते 9 प्रतिशत पर आया, 9 प्रतिशत पर आया तो हमने स्टेट को भी दे दिया, हम भी सब्वेंशन करने लगे, 7 प्रतिशत कर दिया। उसके बाद I

became Chairmen then I recommended that nowhere in India short term loan should be more than 4%. Now it was accepted and it is being implemented. No bank can charge, whether it is cooperative, whether it is nationalized क्योंकि नेशनलाइज्ड और दूसरे बैंक बहुत चार्ज करते थे। whether it is the private banks. लोन पर जो फार्मर टाइम पर वापस देगा. 4 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा चार्ज नहीं कर सकते। and when it was decided, then I went one step ahead. आज हरियाणा में क्रोप लोन पर 0 प्रतिशत चार्ज इंट्रस्ट है। Any farmer returning in time, he doesn't have to pay any interest, because Harvana Government bears this. सबवेंशन करती है। इसी प्रकार से, what was recommendation about जो मुख्य मांग है इनकी, that is what should be the MSP? My Working Group recommended at that time, The Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices (CACP) methodology of calculating costs of cultivation must be reviewed in the context of need to provide economic and remunerative prices to the farmers. The Working Group supports the National Commission on Farmers' report suggesting 50% higher price over the actual cost of cultivation or on the lines of Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices (BICP) formula used for estimating industrial costs. What is the difference now you see; they are saying MSP today also. They say we are implementing Swaminathan recommendation, they are calculating MSP on A2+ FL formula, but, our recommendation was on C2 formula of Swaminathan. अगर आज मान लो 1,800 रुपए गेहूं की पर क्विंटल एमएसपी है, if you calculate it on this C2 Formula, it will come out to be round about 2,800 or between 2,800 -3,000. So that is their second demand, but, now Government should immediately suspend these acts, withdraw these acts. If they want some reforms, they should call Parliament, discuss it and then implement it. Even this report, if you read this report I called all farmers organizations of the country, different stake holders. While passing these acts, nobody was consulted, during Corona period it was passed in Parliament without discussion, stake holders were not taken into confidence. So, this is the time, they should withdraw these acts and come up with some reforms after discussion and stake holders should be consulted.

एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में श्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा ने कहा कि मैं अपनी रिपोर्ट से ही पढ़ रहा हूँ आपको। मेरी रिपोर्ट थी कि फार्मर्स के लिए मार्केट एक्सटेंड करो, ये मार्केट कमेटी, हमने किया, Even to the extent, if you go to Panipat, Rohtak, Karnal, मॉल्स हमने बनाएं हैं, एग्रो मॉल्स so that farmer can come. बड़े-बड़े एग्रो मॉल्स बनाए हैं, वो इस सरकार ने क्योंकि अब हरियाणा गवर्मेंट it is a total failure Government. वो कर नहीं सकी। एग्रो मॉल्स इसी पर्पस से बनाए थे, to create that market for farmers that was the thing, that was the recommendation हमारी कमेटी में। कमेटी की रेकमेंडेशन तो सबसे मेन तो है, वो एमएसपी फिक्सेशन की बात। फार्मर क्या चाहता है- एमएसपी चाहता है और nothing else. और एमएसपी की जो पिछले 6-7 साल में जो कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन बढ़ी है, मतलब, इंटरनेशनली पेट्रोलियम कॉस्ट कम हुई है, लेकिन हमारे यहाँ बढ़ी है। डीजल किसान को महंगा पड़ता है और स्टेट ने क्या किया even if you take example of Haryana state, during our

Government time जो स्टेट का टैक्स था, वो 9 प्रतिशत था। now it has increased to 18% central excise has also been raised. तो इतनी कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन बढ़ गई है, मतलब कॉस्ट बढ़ गई है उसकी डीजल पर, अनअफॉर्डेबल। इसी प्रकार से फर्टीलाइजर भी बढ़ी है, पेस्टीसाइड्स की बढ़ी है, but as compared to the increase in investment एमएसपी में इंक्रीज नहीं हुई है, जैसे यूपीए के समय एवरेज जो है, वो 13 प्रतिशत या 14 प्रतिशत आती थी इंक्रीज, now it is round about 5%, 5.55 % with the cost of input has gone up. These are things to be discussed. So, if you want to make agriculture as sustainable then you have to take these in consideration.

एमएसपी को लेकर पूछे एक अन्य प्रश्न के उत्तर में श्री हुड्डा ने कहा कि हम कब मना कर रहे हैं। We are now saying मैं तो कह रहा हूँ एमएसपी गारंटी करो। let the private investment come, but, farmers' interest should be protected, not at the cost of farmers' interest.

एक अन्य प्रश्न के उत्तर में श्री हुड्डा ने कहा कि मैं समझता हूँ आज जिस स्थिति में किसान आए हैं, उसके लिए Haryana Government is responsible for that, because, this is Delhi, it is the capital of the country. If somebody is coming to Delhi, how can you stop? How can you stop farmers, they were peacefully coming to their capital during Corona period. Hitting them with water cannons, tear gas without any provocation then the Chief Minister issues a statement that he was thanking farmers of Haryana, they are not participating, then who were those who were attacked with water cannons and tear gas? जिनके ऊपर लाठी चार्ज हुआ पिपली में। केसेस बने, ओवर नाइट उठाए गए गांव से, they were all farmers. Another Minister, which I also said, he issued a statement, this farmer movement is being aided by foreigners, Pakistan, China, किस-किस का नाम ले रहा था। you should apologize that sitting at a responsible place, you are issuing such a statement. सारे किसानो के साथ, मतलब, सारे देश के लिए उन्होंने ये कहा है, बेइज्जती की है पूरे देश की, किसानों की, अपमान किया है by saying that. No political parties are leading this agitation. वो अलग बात है. We are supporting farmers' demand. I am not leading, no party is leading. Now all parties are supporting, because that is their genuine demand. It needs to be maintained.

On another question Shri Hooda said- They lost ground even before this. See, on these issues, I have seen results of bye-elections, Baroda bye-elections, they lost by more than 11,000 votes. This is all reflection, where this Haryana BJP-JJP Government stands. जो पिछली बार दोनों की वोट थी, that was more than 70,000 वो उनकी तो आज 40 भी नहीं रह गई, घट गई और हमारी बढ़ गई। तो आपके सामने लोगों ने तो अपना डीसीजन दे दिया और जो जो इंडिपेंडेंट, they have already withdrawn their support और 10 में से 6 और 7 जेजेपी एमएलए they have come openly in the support of the farmers. That is why, I have written a letter to Governor asking him to call special and emergent session to assembly to discuss this issue, law and order in this situation because this Haryana Government has lost confidence of people as well as assembly, so that will decide. Few people are

double talking. On the one hand they are supporting farmers, issuing statements and on the other hand they are reporting this BJP Government. So, the mechanism to expose them would be only no confidence motion. So, the day Governor calls the assembly session, same day, we will come with the no confidence motion.

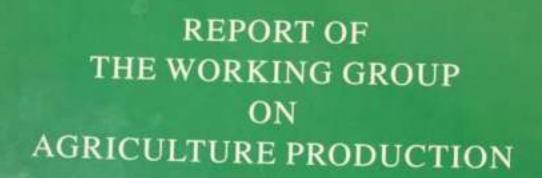
एक अन्य प्रश्न पर कि क्या सरकार आज अल्पमत में है, श्री हुड्डा ने कहा कि अभी मैंने क्या कहा है, जब उनके एमएलए विदड़ो कर रहे हैं, जब उनकी सपोर्टिंग पार्टी के 10 में से 7 एमएलए बोल रहे हैं तो What does it mean? या तो वो, मतलब, they are not true to their speaking, that will decide no confidence motion. वह तो हो जाएगा, लेकिन मैं कह रहा हूँ, Haryana Government has lost confidence of people as well as assembly.

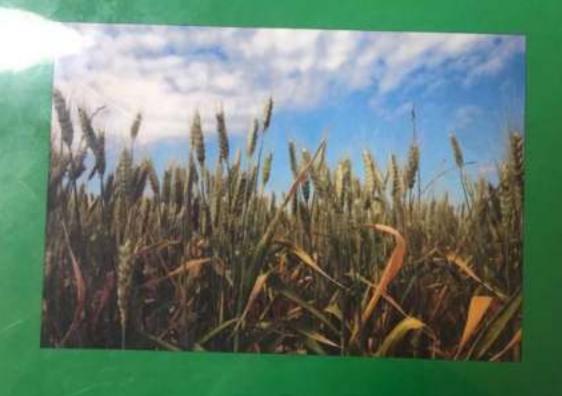
एक अन्य प्रश्न पर कि वर्किंग ग्रुप में बीजेपी के कौन से मुख्यमंत्री थे और उनकी क्या सिफारिश थी, श्री हुड्डा ने कहा कि Parkash Singh Badal was supported by the BJP. Badal was there and another one was from Bihar and other was from West Bengal.

एक अन्य प्रश्न के उत्तर में श्री हुड्डा ने कहा कि नीति आयोग की नहीं है। This was a Working Group report of working group constituted by the Union Government. हमारी मीटिंग हुई थी, यूपीए के टाइम में and it was attended by all the Chief Ministers, Mr. Modi was also there in that meeting. I was also there. I was appointed Chairman of this Working Group and Mr. Modi was appointed Chairman of some other Working Group, पीडीएस बगैरह के।

किसानों के द्वारा भारत बंद को लेकर पूछे एक अन्य प्रश्न के उत्तर में श्री हुड्डा ने कहा कि बंद तो सफल है। जो हमारे पास रिपोर्ट है, बंद तो सफल है। क्योंकि Every section is supporting their demands, because their demand is genuine. मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि जब वो एक बात कह रहे हैं, वो एक बात कह रहे हैं कि हम चाहते हैं कि एमएसपी पर एक-एक दाना खरीदें और एमएसपी पर किसान का कोई खरीदे, तो हमें क्या एतराज़ है। When they are saying themselves then why did they do this? Outside APMC Mandi, they have not provided any MSP.

Sd/-(Dr. Vineet Punia) Secretary Communication Deptt, AICC





ze can also be increased manifold by embracing hybrid maize cultivation and given to the seeds sector to ensure the availability of adequate quantity of hancing seed replacement rate. There is also a need to revamp the extension hnologies percolate to the grass-root level. another important area which needs focused attention. Easy availability of f interest to the farmers is also the need of the hour. Promotion of farm d as this would reduce dependence on labour and improve input use efficiency. promoting optimum use of water. What is in fact needed is a technology mission vercome productivity barriers. portant issue to be tackled first and foremost since water resources are depleting ons like promotion of micro irrigation, underground pipeline systems (UGPL), tant varieties of crops and judicious use of available water need to be promoted. are required to be tackled on priority to revitalize the agriculture sector. ddressed in this report. Crop-wise strategies to improve agriculture production spelt out for the benefit of agriculture administrators and planners. It is hoped In rejuvenating the agriculture sector and ensuring food security of the country Blutat (Bhupinder Singh Hooda) Chief Minister, Haryana & Chairman, Working Group on Agriculture Production on Agriculture Production

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Working Group on Agriculture Production expresses its gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, whose guidance made the assigned task of the Working Group easier and more focused. The Working Group would like to sincerely thank Dr. Asim Kumar Dasgupta, Finance Minister of West Bengal and Dr. Renu Kumari Kushwaha, Agriculture Minister of Bihar for their valuable guidance and suggestions on the issues pertaining to the terms of reference of the Group. Sincere thanks are also due to Agriculture Minister Haryana, Minister of State for Agriculture, Haryana, Dr. G.S. Kalkat, Chairman Farmers' Commission, Punjab, Dr. R.S. Paroda, Chairman, Haryana Kisan Aayog and Dr. K.S. Khokhar, Vice Chancellor, Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agriculture University, Hisar & senior officers of the member States for actively participating in the deliberations of the Working Group and contributing in enriching the quality of recommendations.

The Working Group would like to place on record its special thanks to H.E. the President of India, Smt. Pratibha Patil for convening a meeting on dry land farming on 11.8.2010 in Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi and for forwarding the recommendations of the said meeting through a paper on Rainfed Farming titled "Rainfed Area-The Cradle for a Second Green Revolution" for consideration by the Working Group.

The Working Group would like to thank Shri P.K. Basu, Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Additional Secretary, Dr.
Gurbachan Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Shri Subhash Garg, Joint Secretary, Smt. Chhavi Jha, Director
(Plan), Shailendra Kumar, Director (Horticulture) and Dr. M. Subbarayan, Director (Plan) of Ministry of
Agriculture, Government of India for putting together the initial draft for consideration of the Group, for
assisting the Working Group at all stages of their deliberations and making it possible for the Working
Group to complete its work within a short span of time.

The Working Group would also like to appreciate the efforts put in by Shri Chhatar Singh, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Haryana, Shri Roshan Lal, Financial Commissioner & Principal Secretary to Govt. of Haryana, Agriculture Department, Shri K. K. Khandelwal, Additional Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Haryana, Shri Ashok Yadav, Director, Agriculture, Haryana, Shri B.S. Duggal, Additional Director, Agriculture, Haryana and other officers of the Agriculture Department, Haryana and experts of CCS, HAU, Hisar for hosting the meetings of the Group and facilitating preparation of this report.

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Punjab Farmers' Commission, Rajasthan Farmers' Commission, Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE), Crop Care Federation of India, Crop Life India, Shri Som Pal, former Union Minister of State for Agriculture, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Dr. D.D.S. Sandhu, Prof. (Dr.) M.M. Goel and National Seed Association of India have also provided relevant inputs which have gone into this report. The Working Group on Agriculture Production is indebted to them and a large number of farmers, farmers' organizations, NGOs and individuals for their valuable advice and suggestions.

Constitution of the Working Group, Terms of Reference and Deliberations

Preamble

Primary concern of the Government is to insulate the people of India, particularly the poor from rapid rise in prices of food and essential commodities while ensuring remunerative prices to farmers. To address this concern, first meeting of the "Core Group of Central Ministers and State Chief Ministers on Prices of Essential Commodities", constituted in the wake of large increasing in consumer prices, was held on April 8th, 2010 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. In view of the ever-increasing population and degrading natural resource base, coupled with emerging concerns of climate change, an urgent need was recognized for devising agriculture production increasing strategies by bridging the yield gaps and increasing cropping intensity while ensuring sustainable use of natural resources. The core group realized that to ensure food and nutritional security in the country, on a sustainable basis, state/region specific strategies will need to be defined, developed and implemented. In view of this, three working Groups (WGs) were constituted; i) Working Group on Agriculture Production (WGAP), ii) Working Group on Consumer Affairs (WGCA) and iii) Working Group on Food and Public Distribution (WGFPD).

The Working Group on Agriculture Production was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister, Haryana with Chief Ministers of Punjab, West Bengal and Bihar as members. Order constituting the Working Group on Agriculture Production dated May 17, 2010 is at Annexure I.

Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Working Group on Agriculture production was to deliberate on and recommend measures for increasing agriculture production and productivity, including on long-term policies required for sustained agricultural growth. This working Group was also to deliberate on the availability and management of various issues related to agriculture inputs viz. seeds, fertilizers, water, power, credit, machinery, labour, More specifically, ToR of the Group included making suggestions for strategies / action plan, inter alia, for

Bridging yield gaps (i)

コマアアアアアアア

- Defining crop and region specific strategies special focus on pulses and oilseeds
- Strengthening Input delivery mechanism deliver inputs with knowledge through public-private (ii) (iii)
- Mainstreaming extension system and establishing farm gate crop advisory services
- Marketing reforms: Strengthening post-harvest services, linking farmers to market and credit (iv) (v) policies
- Addressing land and labour related issues

include promoting micro credit through liberal refinance support from National Bank for ater. Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD); ngst Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme for making credit se of delivery simple and hassle free, and joint liability nent groups for extending credit to vulnerable sections ose of farmers like sharecroppers, oral lessees, etc. its Since credit delivery is done at the disaggregated level, States are expected to involve themselv more actively to ensure availability of credit to ial ace the farmers. the arat Flow of agriculture credit has not been her uniform across States. Even within States, there are marked differences between credit flow to developed districts and districts closer to urban ind centres as compared to under-developed Districts. rity Institutional development across States is a priority uld area for equitable flow of credit. Credit should be cy. made available at not more than 4% per annum ers rate of interest. ore ven State Governments may take appropriate ion measures for extending fresh credit to all farmer nal who have benefited under the Agricultural Deb ore, Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme. to .In State Governments may launch intensiv n is branch/village level campaigns for activatir use dormant KCCs and provide KCCs to all willing ent and eligible farmers at the earliest possible in the time bound manner.

greater financial inclusion. Major initiatives

ed or

5.12 The Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices (CACP) methodology of calculating costs of cultivation must be reviewed in the context of need to provide economic and remunerative prices to the farmers. The Working Group supports the National Commission on Farmers' report suggesting 50% higher price over the actual cost of cultivation or on the lines of Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices (BICP) formula used for estimating industrial costs.

5.13 The market for agricultural produce must

se

ld

th

e

le

t

5.13 The market for agricultural produce must be immediately freed of all sorts of restrictions on movement, trading, stocking, finance, exports etc. No monopoly, including that of APMCs or corporate licensees, should be allowed to restrict the market. The concept of farmers' markets, where farmers can freely sell to the consumers directly, must be promoted. The use of Essential Commodities (EC) Act should be made only in times of emergency and it must be decided in consultation with State governments.

Cold storages have to be upgraded to meet these technical standards. Government has taken a decision to establish a National Centre for Cold Chain Development as an autonomous centre with active participation of industry to promote development of integrated cold chain in the country.

- 5.10 Market information along with daily weather conditions should be provided to the farmers using modern ICT tools and techniques (SMS, Panchayat e-services, FM radio, AIR, TV etc.) so that farmer can plan to sell their produce at appropriate time in appropriate market.
- 5.11 Minimum support prices should be effectively ensured and purchase/procurement arrangements must be put in place by all the States in respect of all commodities related to food security.