

No sunshine for sunflower farmers: produce sells at 31% less than MSP

Call it irony, or plain apathy of the government agencies, sunflowers farmers in Punjab are being forced to sell the oilseed at rates that are 31 per cent less than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of the crop.



The Centre last year had enhanced the MSP for the 14 Kharif crops, including that of sunflower. Its MSP was enhanced by 31 per cent – from Rs 4,100 per quintal to Rs 5,388 per quintal. Charan Singh, a farmer from Fatehpur village in Partiala district, on Friday sold his produce at the rate of Rs 3,740 per quintal, which is, ironically, 31 per cent less than the new MSP.

“I had grown sunflowers on 15 acres this year with a hope that I will be able to save some money after selling the produce at the enhanced MSP. I brought my crop to Nabha Mandi and it was bought by private traders at the rate of Rs 3,740 per quintal as no government agency has entered the market to purchase the oilseed,” Charan Singh said.

[Source: Indian Express, June 08, 2019 \(verbatim reproduced\)](#)