

- (v) Credit policy of the Government should support pledge financing by treating it as a priority sector lending to agriculture with the facility of concessional refinance;
- (vi) Government need to promote marketing extension, training and research and use of information technology in agricultural sector to provide a variety of services to the farmers.

An inter-Ministerial Task Force has been constituted to examine the recommendations and suggest measures for implementation of the reforms suggested by the Expert Committee. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also been requested to examine the recommendations of the Expert Committee and provide their feed back to the Task Force.

(d) The Union Budget for the year 2001-2002 envisages an increase of 24% in the ground level flow of credit for agricultural and allied activities and the credit flow is expected to increase to Rs. Sixty four thousand crores in 2001-2002.

Seed Crop Insurance scheme

*266. SHRI R. SARATH KUMAR :

SHRI P. N. SIVA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched a pilot scheme to seed crop insurance to facilitate growth of seed industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the names of crops converted under the scheme; and

(d) the details of sum insured for each crop, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHR AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government launched a pilot scheme on Seed Crop Insurance in Rabi 1999-2000 with the following objectives :

- to provide financial security and income stability to the Breeder/ Seed Grower in the event of failure of seed crop;
- to strengthen confidence in the existing seed breedet/grower and encourage new breeders/growers to undertake seed production programme of newly realised hybrid/improved varieties;

- to provide stability to the infrastructure established by the State owned Seed Corporations/State Farms; and
- to give a boost to the Modern Seed Industry and bring it under scientific management.

The scheme is implemented by the General Insurance Corporation of India.

(c) Seed Crop of Paddy, Wheat, Bajra, Jowar, Maize, Arhar, Gram, Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower and Cotton are covered under the scheme.

(d) The details of sum insured for each crop, Statewise is enclosed in the statement.

Statement

The State-wise/Crop-wise details of sum insured under pilot scheme on Seed Crop Insurance

RABI 1999-2000

<i>State</i>	<i>Crop</i>	<i>Sum insured (Rs.)</i>
Haryana	Gram	1171440
Karnataka	Sun Flower	96000
Orissa	Paddy	671364
Rajasthan	Gram	4449875
Uttar Pradesh	Wheat	7300000
TOTAL		13688679

KHARIF-2000

Orissa	Paddy	2655288
Gujarat	Groundnut	1724526
TOTAL		4379814

RABI 2000-2001

Karnataka	Jowar-Hybrid	469050
TOTAL		469050