

Interest on loan for dairy business

†2026. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed 3 per cent rate of interest on loan given to farmers for agriculture purposes;

(b) whether no interest grant is given for purchasing animals inspite of the fact that dairy business is supplementary business to agriculture; and

(c) whether Government would fix three per cent as rate of interest on loan given for purchase of animals as well as for dairy business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The Interest Subvention Scheme is being implemented by the Government of India since 2006-07 to make short-term crop loans upto Rs.3 lakh for a period of one year available to farmers at the interest rate of 7 percent per annum. The Government of India has since 2009-10 been providing additional interest subvention to prompt payees farmers, i.e. those who repay their loan in time. The additional subvention was 1% in 2009-10 and 2% in 2010-11. This has been increased to 3% in 2011-12.

(b) Government of India is not providing any interest grant under the dairy development schemes.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of Government of India.

Cultivation of BT-cotton

2027. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment to find out the area under cotton cultivation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during 2010-11 as compared to previous year;

(c) whether BT-cotton cultivation area has registered a growth during the year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.