

(iii) In addition, split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, growing leguminous crops and use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) are advocated by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The ICAR also imparts training, organizes frontline demonstrations to educate farmers on these aspects.

Interest free loan to farmers

†2206. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to provide interest free loan to farmers particularly in those States where only 'barani' cultivation is done and only one crop is grown based on nature throughout the year; and

(b) whether Government proposes to waive of the loan of farmers of the famine or drought affected States, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) No, Sir. However, the Government is implementing interest subvention scheme for providing crop loan upto ₹3 lakh at the rate of 7% per annum which further gets reduced to 4% per annum for such farmers who repay their loans on time. In order to discourage distress sale of crops by farmers, the benefit of interest subvention has been made available to small & marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period of upto six months (post harvest) against negotiable warehouse receipts on the same rate as available to crop loan.

(b) No, Sir. However, in order to provide relief to borrowers in times of natural calamities, the Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agricultural & Rural Development (NABARD) have issued standing guidelines for relief measures to be provided by respective lending institutions in areas affected by natural calamities such as drought, flood etc. The guidelines, inter-alia, include extending fresh loans and restructuring of existing loans, relaxed security and margin norms etc.

Assistance to FFDAs of Kerala

2207.DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received requests from Government of Kerala to reconsider the decision to restrict Central financial assistance on capital cost for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

infrastructure development of fishing harbours in the country, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Central Government thereto;

(b) the number of Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) operating in Kerala;

(c) the work undertaken by such agencies in the State for development of fisheries during the last three years; and

(d) the funds sanctioned by Government during the said period for assisting FFDAs of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations" during the financial year 2014-15 with central financial assistance restricted to 40% of the capital cost for infrastructure projects in general areas and 55% in hilly and Scheduled areas.

(b) and (c) The Government of Kerala, Department of Fisheries has reported that there are 14 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) operating in Kerala. The works undertaken by these FFDAs during the last three years as reported by the Government of Kerala are as below:

- (i) coverage of about 3,000 hectare area for fresh water and brackish fish culture,
- (ii) construction of new ponds of 30 hectare,
- (iii) renovation of pond/tank of 2700 hectare area,
- (iv) training of 12,000 farmers in fish culture,
- (v) assistance to 60,000 farmers for fish culture,
- (vi) harvesting of 21,000 tonne fish,
- (vii) cage culture of different species such as *Etroplus suratensis* along with training to fishermen for cage culture,
- (viii) commencement of a fish feed mill,
- (ix) supply of craft and gear to fishermen societies for fishing in reservoirs, and
- (x) reservoirs stocking in 27 Reservoirs of Kerala.

(d) Details of the central funds released to the Government of Kerala under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture for assisting FFDAs during the last three financial years are as below:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Amount (₹ in lakh)
1.	2011-12	113.00
2.	2012-13	162.43
3.	2013-14	162.28

Development of dairy value chain

2208. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to develop dairy value chain including establishing rural cold chain across the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to develop dairy value chain in the country, especially in Andhra Pradesh, under cooperative, joint venture as well as Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India was implementing Centrally Sponsored schemes namely Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production (SIQ-CMP) and Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) to develop dairy value chain including establishing rural cold chain across the country. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme IDDP and SIQ-CMP has been discontinued from the financial year 2014-15. The erstwhile IDDP and SIQ-CMP scheme along with its objectives and targets have been subsumed under the new scheme "National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)" from 2014-15 of the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The Scheme-wise details of chilling capacity created under IDDP and SIQ-CMP are given in Statements-I and II (*See below*).

(b) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India is implementing "National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)" to develop dairy value chain in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, under cooperative dairy sector and on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for projects where end implementing agencies are New Generation Milk Producer Companies.