

(c) Following steps are being taken up under the above mentioned schemes for cattle breed improvement in Andhra Pradesh through large scale cross breeding, upgradation of local buffaloes with Murrah and selective breeding in indigenous cattle like ongole:

- (i) Strengthening of semen stations
- (ii) Strengthening of bull mother farms
- (iii) Strengthening of Embryo Transfer Technology Laboratory
- (iv) Streamlining Liquid Nitrogen Transport and distribution system
- (v) Extension of AI coverage through establishment of Private AI workers (Gopalmitras)/MAITRIs, strengthening of existing AI centres
- (vi) Induction of bulls for natural service
- (vii) Bull production programme for indigenous breeds of cattle like Ongole and Punganur
- (viii) Progeny testing programme for Jersey Crossbred.

Revival of agriculture sector

655. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to revive/ invigorate farm sector and national agricultural market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan to help State Governments to improve their qualitative farm production with a view both to meet the domestic needs, encourage exports and to mitigate the plight of farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA) : (a) to (c) Agriculture being a State subject, State Governments take up several schemes and programmes in accordance with the agro-climatic conditions, felt needs of the State concerned for development of Agriculture and better income generation of farmers. In addition, Government of India also implements several schemes and provides financial assistance to States for the benefit of farmers for better planning, cultivation and marketing of their agricultural produce. Better extension support, timely agricultural and market information, best agricultural practices, etc. are provided to farmers through State Govts./ Agencies. States

are being encouraged to modify their APMC Act and other statutory provisions so as to make those more conducive and beneficial to farmers. Government of India has also facilitates availability of institutional loans/finances to farmers with provisions for interest subvention for timely payment.

During 12th Five Year Plan period, existing fifty one (51) schemes have been stream lined and restructured to ten (10) Missions to improve quality of production and productivity of Agriculture and Allied Sector:

- (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
- (ii) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
- (iii) National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm
- (iv) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) including Micro Irrigation
- (v) National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)
- (vi) Integrated Scheme for Farmers Income Security
- (vii) Integrated Scheme on Agri. Census and Statistics
- (viii) Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing
- (ix) Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation
- (x) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

In addition, schemes for promotion of export of agricultural and processed food products are being implemented by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

Cow density and breed

656. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the cow density and breed proposition in India before independence and at present;
- (b) whether it is an alarming situation for the future of the country;
- (c) the cow milk and its allied needs in the country at present; and
- (d) the selected breeds of Indian and foreign breed cows, the figures thereof ?