

atmosphere storage, reefer vans and setting up of ripening chambers, etc. Under post-harvest component, credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35% of the project cost in general areas and @ 50% in case of hilly and scheduled areas is available.

#### **Schemes for promotion of FPIs in North-Eastern States**

734. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the details of schemes being implemented by Government in North-Eastern States for promotion of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) during the last year, scheme-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country including North-Eastern States, Ministry is implementing various Central Sector Schemes, namely (1) Scheme for Infrastructure Development for Food Processing having components of Mega Food Park, Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition & Preservation Infrastructure and Modernization of Abattoirs (2) Scheme of Technology Up-gradation / Establishment / Modernization of Food Processing Industries (spill-over liabilities) (3) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research & Development and Other Promotional Activities (4) Scheme for Human Resource Development (spill-over liabilities) and (5) Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions.

During the 12th Five Year Plan, Ministry also launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'National Mission on Food Processing' (NMFP) for implementation through the State Governments / Union Territories (UTs). The scheme was having the components of (i) Technology Up-gradation / Setting up / Modernization of Food Processing Units (ii) Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticulture Products (iii) Modernisation of Abattoirs (iv) Human Resource Development (v) Promotional Activities (vi) Creating Primary Processing Centers / Collection Centers in Rural Areas (vii) Modernisation of Meat Shops (viii) Reefer Vehicles and (ix) Food Park (Old Scheme). However, NMFP has been delinked from Central Government support w.e.f. 1.4.2015, except for UTs.

#### **Assistance to States for strengthening irrigation facilities**

†735. SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is an agricultural country and is committed to strengthen the farmers and in this regard it has been announced that each and every field of farmers will be provided water for irrigation;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the salient features of the policy of the Central Government in this regard and the role of States in it; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to provide financial support to States to strengthen them in the field of irrigation, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA):  
(a) Yes, Sir. With the vision of providing end-to end solutions in irrigation supply chain, viz. water sources, distribution network and farm level applications, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been launched from 1st July, 2015.

(b) to (d) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been formulated amalgamating ongoing schemes viz. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation; Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) of Department of Land Resources; and On Farm Water Management (OFWM) component of National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare. PMKSY is to be implemented in an area development approach, adopting decentralized state level planning and projectised execution, allowing the states to draw their irrigation development plans based on district/blocks plans with a horizon of 5 to 7 years. A sum of Rs.50,000 crore of central share has been provisioned for scheme for the next five years (2015-16 to 2019-20) and budget provision of Rs.5300 crore has been made for implementation of PMKSY during 2015-16.

#### **Telephone connectivity of villages**

736. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of villages in the country are yet to be connected with mobile telephones, if so, the details of such villages, State-wise;
- (b) the details of mobile towers and telephone exchanges installed by Central Government in the country to provide telephone connectivity to the left out villages/areas during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the number of mobile towers and telephone exchanges presently working and likely to be installed in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to connect the left out villages/areas with mobile telephones?