

Mechanism to supervise royalty payments

2274. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether BT Cotton accounts for nearly 45 per cent of the industry and National Seed Association of India (NSAI) and farmers have paid over ₹5000 crore to a leading multinational seed company as royalty so far, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether the Hybrid seed producers' body wants Government to intervene and ensure a regulatory mechanism to supervise and determine royalty payments and licensing of hybrid technologies; and

(c) whether NSAI has urged the said company to slash royalty payments taking into account ceilings fixed by number of State Governments but failed to elicit positive response, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) National Seed Association of India (NSAI) has reported that Bt. Cotton accounts for nearly 45% in terms of value of the Indian seed industry and from 2002 to 2014, more than ₹ 5000 crores had been paid as royalty to the technology provider.

(b) Farmers Organizations and NSAI had requested this Department to intervene to regulate royalty charges for Bt. Cotton technology being charged by Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Limited. This Department has issued Cotton Seed Price (Control) Order, 2015 under Section 3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 so as to regulate cotton seed prices. The matter has also been referred to Competition Commission of India to investigate the allegations of monopolistic practices by Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Limited.

(c) NSAI has reported that their request to Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Limited, the technology provider, to reduce royalty payments has not elicited a positive response and that the matter is pending adjudication in the court.

Promoting organic farming

2275. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government for promoting organic farming in the country;
- (b) the type of incentives being given to farmers to produce organic food in the country, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the future plan/road-map of Government in respect of organic farming in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) To promote organic farming in the country, Government is providing financial assistance to the State Governments under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and Paramparagat Krishi Yojana (PKVY). Details of pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Details regarding State-wise fund released during the year 2015-16 is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) The Policy of Government is to promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentally non-degrading, and socially acceptable use of natural resources in favour of organic agriculture. It seeks to actualize the area and crop potential for organic farming, sustaining soil fertility, conserving bio-resources, strengthening rural economy, promoting value addition, for accelerating the growth of agro-business and securing a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families.

Organic farming shall be promoted in such areas like hilly, tribal and also rain-fed where utilization of chemical fertilizers and pesticide is less.

Statement-I

Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic/ Bio-fertilizers

Component	Pattern of assistance
1	2
NMSA	
1. Setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/ Agro waste compost production unit.	100% Assistance to State Govt./Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190 lakh /unit and 33% of cost limited to ₹63

1	2
	lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment for 3000 TPA production capacity.
2. Setting up of state-of-art liquid/ carrier based Biofertilizer/ Biopesticide units	100% Assistance to State Govt./Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹160 lakh /unit and 25% of cost limited to ₹ 40 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment of 200 TPA production capacity
3. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid / solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.)	50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/- per ha and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area.

MIDH

Vermi compost Units/organic input production	50% of cost conforming to the size of the unit of 30' X8' X2.5' dimension of permanent structure to be administered on pro-rata basis. For HDPE Vermibed, 50% of cost conforming to the size of 96 eft (12' x4' x2') and IS 15907:2010 to be administered on pro-rata basis (₹ 100,000/unit for permanent structure and ₹ 16,000/unit for HDPE Vermibed).
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PKVY

Adoption of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Certification through cluster approach	The cluster chosen for Organic Farming shall be 50 acres in extent and contiguous as far as possible. In order to facilitate this, the ceiling of subsidy that a farmer is eligible shall be a maximum of one hectare and the total financial assistance eligible for a 50 acre cluster shall be a maximum of ₹ 10(ten) lakhs for farmer members and ₹ 4.95 lakh for mobilization and PGS Certification.
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Statement-II*Annual Action Plan of PKVY during the year 2015-16 (till 05.11.2015)*

Sl. No.	State	Allocation of Funds 50:50 ratio (₹ in lakhs) State Centre		No. of Cluster	Total outlay approved by EC. (₹ in lakhs)	75% of (GOI Share) released of funds. (₹ in lakhs)
1	2	3		4	5	6
1.	Assam	1518	1518	220	1552.42	576.39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	263	263	19	137.08	51.41
3.	Andhra Pradesh	1452	1452	411	2933.75	1100.15
4.	Bihar	1169	1169	327	2336.15	728.98
5.	Chhattisgarh	693	693	188	1341.96	503.24
6.	Goa	69	69	04	28.55	7.14
7.	Gujarat	1663	1663	100	713.81	178.45
8.	Haryana	373	373	20	142.76	53.53
9.	Himachal Pradesh	395	395	110	768.52	288.19
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	209	209	28	199.87	74.95
11.	Jharkhand	479	479	100	713.80	178.45
12.	Karnataka	1926	1926	545	3890.26	1458.86
13.	Kerala	631	631	119	849.38	318.52
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3108	3108	880	6281.50	2355.56
15.	Maharashtra	3293	3293	932	6929.36	2598.51
16.	Mizoram	122	122	34	237.54	89.08
17.	Manipur	109	109	30	214.14	53.53

1	2	3	4	5	6	
18.	Nagaland	171	171	24	171.31	64.24
19.	Odisha	1180	1180	320	2284.19	856.57
20.	Punjab	566	566	50	356.90	89.22
21.	Rajasthan	2614	2614	755	5274.86	1978.07
22.	Sikkim	472	472	150	818.21	306.83
23.	Tamil Nadu	1376	1376	112	799.46	299.80
24.	Tripura	183	183	50	356.90	133.84
25.	Telangana	1053	1053	300	2141.42	803.03
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3074	3074	575	4104.39	1534.68
27.	Uttarakhand	481	481	550	3925.94	981.485
28.	West Bengal	1057	1057	120	856.57	214.14
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	486	486	68	485.38	
TOTAL		30185	30185	7141	50846.38	17876.84
				25423.19	Say 179	
				Say 254	crore	
				crore 50%	59.66%	

Distress among oil palm cultivators of Andhra Pradesh

2276. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the distress among oil palm cultivators in Andhra Pradesh owing to price slump;

(b) if so, whether Government is taking up any market intervention operations to avert the distressed farmers from committing suicide; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.