

**Agro startups**

1014. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to work out details about agro startups;
- (b) if so, the latest position in this regard; and
- (c) whether any deadline has been fixed for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) Government of India is already implementing schemes for Start-ups, including Agro Start-ups through Schemes such as 'Start-up India Scheme' of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and 'A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Agro-Industry' (ASPIRE) scheme under Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

**Regulation of price of cotton seed**

1015. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether is a fact that Government is considering to provide full regulation of cotton seed price, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to keep cotton seed away from the regulation of trait fee or royalty charged by private technology providers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare had issued the Cotton Seeds Price (Control) Order, 2015 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to regulate price of Bt. Cotton seed.

As per the Cotton Seeds Price (Control) Order, 2015, a Committee has been constituted to recommend the maximum sale price of Bt. Cotton seed after taking into consideration the components of seed value, license fee which includes one time and recurring royalty (trait value), trade margins and other taxes. While considering the value of trait fee in seed pricing, the Committee will examine the efficacy of technology, previous recovery of trait fee by the technology provider, affordability of seed price