

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has withdrawn on 24th May, 2016 the Notification of Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines.

(c) Key features of the Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines include Fair, Reasonable and Non-Discriminatory (FRAND) allocation, a cap on maximum trait value, no right to refuse grant of license to any eligible seed company fulfilling the eligibility criteria, in case of loss of efficacy trait value to be zero, no restrictive condition in the agreement for alternative GM technology, etc.

(d) These draft Licensing Guidelines and Format for GM Technology Agreement have been uploaded on the website of the Department. Decision on these draft Licensing guidelines will be taken after receiving comments/suggestions from all stakeholders after completion of 90 days.

Policy to improve agriculture sector

†572. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any special policy to improve the worsened situation of agriculture and to promote agriculture sector through achievement of white and blue revolutions and fast pace of horticulture; and

(b) whether any steps are to be taken to improve mandi system and to improve dilapidated expansion system of basic infrastructure under this policy to provide fair prices to farmers for their produces, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Government of India is already running several schemes for the upliftment of agriculture and its allied sectors in the country. New Schemes have also been introduced in the recent past such as National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Soil Health Card (SHC), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) etc.

In so far as white revolution is concerned, the Government is implementing the following schemes in which assistance is provided for development of dairying sector-(i) National Dairy Plan (Phase-I); (ii) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development; (iii) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme; and (iv) Supporting State Cooperative Dairy Federations.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has restructured the Fisheries Scheme as Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries, 2016 which encompasses following components:-

- (i) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB);
- (ii) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture;
- (iii) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post-Harvest Operations;
- (iv) National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen,
- (v) Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information System of the Fisheries Sector; and
- (vi) Issuance of Biometric Identity Cards to Coastal Fishermen.

The Blue Revolution, with its multi-dimensional activities, focuses mainly on increasing production from aquaculture and fisheries resources, both inland and marine. Blue Revolution visualizes “Creating an enabling environment for an integrated and holistic development and management of fisheries keeping in view the sustainability, bio-security and environmental concerns”.

The main objectives of the scheme are:-

- (i) To increase the overall fish production in a responsible and sustainable manner for economic prosperity;
- (ii) To modernize fisheries with special focus on new technologies;
- (iii) To ensure food and nutritional security;
- (iv) To generate employment and export earnings;
- (v) To ensure inclusive development and empower fishermen and aquaculture farmers.

The Administrative approval of the restructured scheme was issued on 22.12.2015 with revised funding norms. The guidelines of the scheme has been revamped and issued on 30.06.2016 with revised cost norms for the entire gamut of activities in the fisheries sector.

Under the revised scheme unit cost of Fishermen houses has been increased to ₹ 120,000/- in plain areas and ₹ 130,000/- in North-East Himalayan States from existing ₹ 75,000/-. Similarly for saving-cum-relief, financial assistance to be provided to each Fishermen has been increased to ₹ 3,000/- from existing ₹ 1,800/-.

Government of India is implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM) Scheme for development of post harvest management and market infrastructure.

(b) In order to improve the marketing system being carried out by existing physical mandis and to provide maximum benefit to the farmers by enhancing transparency, price discovery, competition and farmers' access to numerous markets and buyers, the Government has launched National Agricultural Market Scheme (e-NAM) on 14th April, 2016 in 21 mandis across 8 States. Under the Scheme, a PAN India electronic portal has been developed to be deployable in 585 mandis by 2018. Further, to modernize the existing mandis under e-NAM, the Government will provide e-NAM portal free of cost and will also meet expenses on software and its customization for the States. Apart from this, the Government will give grant as one time fixed cost subject to the ceiling of ₹ 30.00 lakhs per Mandi for hardware including equipment/infrastructure and assaying equipments, etc.

The component of market infrastructure in NHM includes rural primary markets, wholesale markets and terminal market complexes. For rural primary markets credit linked back ended subsidy @ 40% in general areas and @ 55% in hilly and tribal areas of the maximum project of ₹ 25.00 lakh is available. For wholesale markets credit linked back ended subsidy @25% in general areas and @ 33.33% in hilly and tribal areas of the maximum project cost of ₹ 100.00 crore/project is available. For terminal market complex, under PPP mode, assistance @25% to 40% (limited to ₹ 50.00 crore) of project cost of ₹ 150.00 crore/project, which includes 25% as floor subsidy plus 15% as subsidy on bidding is available.

Formation of national policy for co-operative societies

573. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of co-operative societies functioning in the country at present, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to formulate a National Policy for the development and up gradation of co-operative societies, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the same is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) The State/UT-wise details of Multi State Cooperative Societies registered under Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002, the Act administered by the Government of India, are given in the Statement (*See below*). Details of Societies registered in States under their respective Cooperative Societies Acts are not maintained by the Government of India.