

directed that".... respondents Nos. 9 to 12 or any other Cooperative Societies or the Multi-State Cooperative Societies registered under the Rajasthan State Cooperative Societies Act, 2001 and the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 shall not accept deposits of any kind and under any scheme from public, including nominal members, ordinary members or the members of any category of these Societies, except after obtaining license under Section 22 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.....The restriction will, however, not apply for repayment of the deposits for a period of three months. If licenses are obtained within three months under Section 22 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the respondents Nos. 9 to 12 as well as other Cooperative Societies in the State of Rajasthan may be allowed to accept the deposits."

Globalizing AYUSH medicines

953. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the globalization of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) medicines is also a part of the policy of Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether India has partnered with the United States to collaborate on research and development of traditional medicines for various diseases including cancer care for global acceptability for AYUSH medicines; and

(c) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes. The Ministry of AYUSH is mandated to promote and propagate AYUSH systems of medicine across the globe. To achieve the objective, the Ministry of AYUSH signs Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) for 'Country to Country' cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicines; sets-up AYUSH Academic Chairs in foreign Universities/Educational Institutes; establishes AYUSH Information Cells in the premises of the Indian Missions abroad or Indian Cultural Centres for dissemination of authentic information about AYUSH Systems of medicine and enters into MoUs with foreign institutes for undertaking collaborative research.

(b) and (c) Yes. As a result of concerted efforts, for the first time India has successfully engaged USA in the field of Traditional Medicine. An India-US workshop on Traditional Medicine with special focus on cancer was organized on 3-4 March, 2016 at New Delhi. A

US team comprising of experts from National Cancer Institute (NCI) took part in the two day exhaustive deliberations that have resulted into significant leads.

Loans disbursed to farmers

954. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans disbursed in the Financial Year 2014-15 and 2015-16 to farmers and their families, affected by drought in the country; and

(b) the steps taken, if any, by Government to ease the process of loan disbursement to farmers in drought affected areas at nominal rates of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The data regarding loan disbursed to farmers and their families affected by drought is not separately maintained by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). However, RBI and NABARD have issued directions for relief measures to be provided by lending institutions in areas affected by natural calamities including drought, which include restructuring of existing crop loans and term loans, extending fresh loans, relaxed security and margin norms, moratorium of minimum 1 year, no penal interest in respect of current dues in default, etc. These directions have been so designed that they are automatically set in motion without any intervention and this saves precious time. The State-wise details of loans restructured on account of natural calamities during the last three years (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15), as reported by RBI, are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) Interest rates on loans have been deregulated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and they are now linked to the Base Rate fixed by the banks. However, the Government of India implements an Interest Subvention Scheme for short term crop loans up to Rs. 3.00 lakh with a view to ensuring availability of short term agriculture credit at a reduced interest rate of 7% p.a. to farmers. Under the said scheme, additional subvention of 3% is given to those farmers who repay their short term crop loan in time, thereby reducing the effective rate of interest to 4% p.a. for such farmers. Further, under the extant Interest Subvention Scheme, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities including drought, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount and such restructured loans may attract normal rate of interest from the second year onwards as per the policy laid down by RBI.