larvae from fertilized eggs were reared in indoor tanks. Rotifers and Artemia were used as live feed in larval rearing which was subsequently replaced with artificial feed till the larvae reached the stockable size for farming. A survival rate of 12% from the larvae to advanced dry has been achieved by manipulating water quality and feeding protocols under controlled environmental conditions. Advanced fry were, then, transferred for nursery rearing in outdoor systems for attaining the stockable size for grow-out culture in cages and ponds.

(b) The technology developed by the ICAR-CMFRI for production of orange-spotted grouper fish seeds is ready to be taken up by developmental agencies such as National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF), the Ministry of Agricultural and Farmers' Welfare; the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA) of the Marine Product Export Development Authority (MPEDA), the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; the State fisheries departments and private entrepreneurs, for mass scale seed production of this fish species.

Implementation of PMFBY

3379. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States have not implemented the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons given by each of such States for non-implementation of the Yojana; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to implement the PMFBY all over the country for the benefit of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) launched from Kharif 2016 is voluntary for States/Union Territories (UTs). 21 States have opted for the scheme during Kharif 2016. While many other States/UTs also initiated the process for implementation of PMFBY, however they could not implement during Kharif 2016 for reasons including administrative issues, delay in finalization of bidding process, practical reasons like non-variability in yield, non-availability of scheme for perennial horticultural crops like apple, cardamom etc., non-availability of sufficient area for crops, insufficient infrastructure for conducting of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) to assess the yield etc. Of these State Governments of Assam, Kerala and Jammu and Kashmir

and UTs of Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar propose to come on board from Rabi 2016-17 season. Government is persuading States/UTs for implementation of the scheme at various fora and meetings to provide crop risk coverage to all eligible farmers of the country.

Protecting indigenous cows

†3380. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NGT is focussing on the protection of indigenous breed of cows throughout the country, if so, the steps taken by Government for the protection of cows of indigenous breeds, the details thereof;

(b) whether any increase or decrease in the number of indigenous cows has been observed during the last ten years; and

(c) the total number of indigenous cows in the country, including Maharashtra, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir. The case is *sub-judice*. In order to compliment and supplement the efforts made by the States to protect and promote indigenous bovine breeds, Government of India is implementing following schemes: (i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD); (ii) Rashtriya Gokul Mission (part of NPBBDD); (iii) National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre; (iv) National Dairy Plan-I; (v) Central Herd Registration Scheme; (vi) Central Cattle Breeding Farms and (vii) Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute. Following steps are being taken under these schemes to promote indigenous breeds: (i) implementation of bull production programme (progeny testing and pedigree selection) for production of high genetic merit disease free bulls; (ii) induction of indigenous bulls of high genetic merit for natural service and AI; (iii) strengthening of bull mother farms of indigenous breeds; (iv) establishment of Gokul gram; (v) establishment of two National Kamdhenu Breeding Centres one in Andhra Pradesh and one in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The indigenous cow population has increased from 82.96 million (as per 17th Livestock Census 2003) to 89.22 million (as per 19th Livestock Census 2012).

(c) The total number of indigenous cows in the country, including Maharashtra, State-wise is given in Statement.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.