

development of agriculture sector including marketing and post harvest management. Further, Government has launched a comprehensive crop insurance scheme called 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana' (PMFBY) which covers the risks and uncertainties that the farm sector is exposed to.

Encouragement for domestication of desi cows

2884. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether scientific studies have revealed that domestication of desi cows is economically and environmentally more beneficial to the villagers than the hybrid types, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether there is any scheme under which financial assistance, in form of subsidy, could be availed by the villagers as an incentive for domestication of desi cows in preference to hybrid types, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) As informed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research no study on effect of climate change on milk production in Indian cows has been conducted by ICAR. However, under Chapter 24 of ICAR published book entitled "Global Climate Change and Indian Agriculture—case studies from the ICAR Network Project" the following has been mentioned:

"Increased heat stress associated with global climate change may, however, cause distress to dairy animals and possibly impact milk production. Temperature-Humidity Index was used to relate animal stress with productivity of milk of buffaloes, crossbred and local cows. These studies indicated that India loses 1.8 million tonnes of milk production at present due to climatic stresses in different parts of the country. Global warming will further negatively impact milk production by 1.6 million tonnes by 2020 and more than 15 million tonnes by 2050. High producing crossbred cows and buffaloes will be impacted more than indigenous cattle. Northern India is likely to experience greater impact of global warming on milk production of both cattle and buffaloes in future".

(b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has been implementing following schemes under which assistance is released to the States for development and conservation of indigenous breeds:—

- (i) Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)
- (ii) National Mission on Bovine Productivity
- (iii) National Dairy Plan-I

In addition to this the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is also implementing Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) throughout the country under which back ended capital subsidy (25% of the total sanctioned project cost for General Category and 33.33% for Schedule Tribe and Schedule Caste beneficiaries) is provided through eligible financial institutions, subject to the norms of the scheme. Under the scheme induction of high yielding animals of indigenous breeds is also permitted.

Storage of agricultural produces

2885. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether post-harvest storage of agricultural produces is a big problem of the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the effective steps taken by Government to prevent damage to foodgrains due to natural calamities such as floods, droughts and frost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) On the basis of peak stock requirement during procurement season for Public Distribution System (PDS), the overall storage capacity required in the country is about 600 Lakh MT. Against this, the total capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies for storage of foodgrains as on 30.06.2017 was 794.48 Lakh MT, hence, is sufficient. Storage capacity of 577.6 Lakh MT has also been created under the scheme Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) (erstwhile Grameen Bhandaran Yojana) and 194.64 Lakh MT capacity under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW). 159 Lakh MT storage capacities has been created by Cooperative Sector.

(b) and (c) The DAC&FW is implementing various schemes to strengthen the marketing infrastructure including post-harvest storage of agricultural produce in scientific manner in order to reduce post-harvest losses.