

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (d) No Sir. However, the State Governments provide relief to families that face farmer suicides. As per information available from the States, the details of relief etc. being provided are as follows:

- State Government of Maharashtra gives *ex-gratia* relief of ₹ 1.00 lakh to the heirs of the deceased farmer. The three norms of eligibility for *ex-gratia* are crop failure, indebtedness and harassment due to inability to pay agriculture related loans.
- The Punjab Government provides ₹ 3.00 lakh compensation to victims' family.
- Government of Andhra Pradesh provides ₹ 5.00 lakh compensation to the family members of the deceased farmer. Out of which ₹ 1.50 lakh is one time settlement to wipe off loans/liabilities and ₹ 3.50 lakh towards rehabilitation of the family.
- The Government of Telangana makes *ex-gratia* payment of ₹ 5.00 lakh to the family of the deceased farmer for rehabilitation of the family and ₹ 1.00 lakh as a onetime settlement to wipe off all liabilities of the families of the deceased farmers.
- In Karnataka an amount of ₹ 5.00 lakh relief is given to the deceased family and the children of the deceased get free education up to post graduation including hostel facilities.

**Research on growing paddy with less water**

2103. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of rice varieties available in the country;
- (b) whether any research has been conducted to grow paddy with less water; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Sir, the research efforts of National Agricultural Research System (NARS) comprising Indian Council of Agricultural

Research (ICAR), Central Agricultural Universities (CAUs) and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) have led to release of 1188 rice varieties including 91 hybrids for cultivation in different agro-ecologies of the country since 1960 to till date.

(b) and (c) The NARS has developed several aerobic rice varieties like, CR Dhan 200, CR Dhan 205, CR Dhan 207, CR Dhan 209, etc. which require less water in comparison to conventional low land varieties.

Drought tolerant rice varieties have been developed and released which can be grown under water deficit conditions. Some of these are, Vandana, DRR Dhan 42, CR Dhan 305, Birsa Vikas Dhan 211, Rajendra Bhagwati, Sahbhagi Dhan, etc.

Besides, cultivation practices like, direct seeding and System of Rice Intensification (SRI), which require less water to grow paddy, are also promoted.

#### **Steps to check farmers' suicide**

2104. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there are no farm deaths in China in spite of having small pieces of farm land;

(b) whether it has ever tried to find out the reasons why there are no farm suicides in China and tried to replicate the same here; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has no access to such information.

#### **Steps to assuage the concerns of the farmers**

2105. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers from Maharashtra and other States have raised demands like purchase of some crops by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd., assessment of loss and compensation to farmers for bollworm attack on their crops and action against MNCs for supplying defective seeds, which are agitating them a lot; and

(b) if so, the urgent steps Government is taking to assuage their concerns?