

Social security for women farmers

2108. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives launched by Government for the welfare of women farmers in the country, in the last three years; and

(b) whether Government is planning to ensure better social security for women farmers for their health and well being, if so, the measures taken by Government for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Women are encouraged to participate in all the schemes and programs. October 15th every year is declared as Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas and it was celebrated at 493 locations across the country on October 15, 2017 first time with the participation of 36326 innovative and progressive farm women. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, as a part of its mainstreaming efforts, has been ensuring flow of funds to the tune of 30% for the benefit and welfare of women farmers under all its beneficiary oriented schemes through State Governments. The Scheme Guidelines under which at least 30% of the beneficiaries and/or 30% of the budget is utilised for the benefit of women include (1) 'Support to States Extension programmes for Extension Reforms', (2) 'National Food Security Mission', (3) 'National Mission on Oilseed & Oil Palm', (4) 'National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture', (5) 'Sub-Mission for Seed and Planting Material', (6) 'Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization' and (7) 'Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture'.

The Department of Rural Development is also implementing 'Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran / Pariyojana (MKSP)', which is a sub-component of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) to meet / the specific needs of women farmers and help achieve their socio economic and technical empowerment, predominantly of small and marginal farmers. MKSP focuses on organization and mobilization of Mahila Kisan and their training, in order to enable them to manage and sustain their activities.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 681 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country mandated with Technology Assessment and Demonstration for its Application and Capacity Development (TADA-CD). KVKs organize demonstrations, training programs and skill development programs for the benefit of farmers and farm women, rural youth and in-service extension personnel.

(b) The National Policy for Farmers 2007 supports provision of appropriate support services like nutrition, and health; creches, childcare centres, etc. to women farmers. Further, under the Scheme 'Support to States Extension programmes for Extension Reforms' women's involvement in various decision making bodies is ensured at block, district and State level, which inter alia provides them with better social security.

FMD in animals

2109. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how successful is the Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (EMDCP) initiated by Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) in the prevention and providing vaccination to the affected animals along with the details thereof; and

(b) the amount of funds allocated by the Ministry for the FMDCP during the last three years, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing the Foot and Mouth Disease Control (FMDCP) Programme as one of the components of Livestock Health and Disease Control scheme. The FMDCP was initiated since 10th Five Year Plan initially in 54 districts and further expanded during 11th & 12th Five Year Plan. Now entire country is covered under FMD-CP. Six monthly vaccination for all eligible cattle and buffaloes are being carried out under this programme.

Due to effective implementation of FMD Control Programme in the country, there is a significant reduction in the outbreaks of FMD in the States under FMD Control Programme. Total number of reported outbreaks, which were 2270 in the year 2005 was reduced to 158 in 2016. During the year 2016-17, a total of 284 millions vaccinations of eligible cattle and buffaloes have been carried out.

(b) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India allocated funds for vaccination of all eligible cattle and buffaloes. Funds have been allocated for vaccination of all eligible cattle and buffaloes to the tune ₹151.39 crore in 2015-16, ₹175.25 crore in 2016-17 and ₹ 262.02 crore during 2017-18.