

the multi state cooperative society and the scales of pay, allowances and other conditions of service of, including disciplinary action against, such employees falls within powers and functions of the Board of the Bank. The Chief Executive is required to fulfil the 'fit and proper' criteria formulated in consultation with RBI. The pay of Chief Executive is not required to be approved by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies.

Coverage of Greater Yam Crop under PMFBY

1288. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE and FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government does not treat Greater Yam producers as farmers at all;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to provide Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) coverage to Greater Yam producing farmers of East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Coverage of crops and areas to be included under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) are notified by the State Governments.

In Andhra Pradesh, a minimum of 2000 hectare of cropped area in a mandal is required to form an Insurance Unit under PMFBY. The total area under Greater Yam in East Godavari District is only 373 hectare and hence this crop is not included under PMFBY.

Research on Dry Land Cropping system

1289. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any efforts for research on dry land cropping system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to improve the yield potential of land under arid and semi-arid zones of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.