

FPOs operating in the country

1962. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all States have adopted the Model Act on Contract Farming;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total number of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) operating in the country, at present;
- (d) the total number of farmers covered or represented by FPOs at present; and
- (e) the total number of FPOs registered in the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Model Act on Contract Farming "The.....State/UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018" was released recently in May, 2018. There was general unanimity in the meeting of the States' Agricultural Marketing Ministers held to release the Model Act to adopt the same. States are now in the process of consultation on this Model Act. However, 21 States have made provisions for Contract Farming following the circulation of earlier model Agriculture Produce Market Committee Act, 2003.

(c) and (d) Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium a registered society under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Government of India has helped 744 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in registering as companies. Presently, a total of 7,37,761 farmers are covered or represented by these FPOs.

Further, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is also promoting FPOs. NABARD has promoted 4000 FPOs since 2014-15, of which 2058 FPOs are registered till date. The total number of farmers covered is appx. 8 lakh.

So far, 5733 number of Producer Companies have been registered in the country.

(e) During last four years, total number of FPOs registered through SFAC and NABARD are 521 and 2058 respectively.

So far, 4669 number of Producer Companies have been registered in last four years.