

members. Any dispute arising between the member and the multi-state cooperative society, shall be settled by filing dispute u/s 84 of the MSCS Act, 2002 for arbitration.

(c) In this regard, two references from Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap, MP (Rajya Sabha) addressed to the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies dated 04.12.2018 have been received in this department and the same were replied *vide* this department's letter No.R-11017/81/2018-L&M dated 31.12.2018.

#### **Construction of cold storages in Bihar**

†2591. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient number of cold storages have been constructed by Government for the conservation of vegetables and fruits;

(b) whether outline of the plan has been formulated for the expansion of cold chain in rural areas of the country;

(c) whether the facility of cold storage has been provided by Government for farmers of Bihar for conservation of vegetables and fruits; and

(d) if so, the names of the districts of Bihar wherein Government has constructed the cold storage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) A study on All India Cold-chain Infrastructure Capacity (AICIC-2015) carried out by NABARD Consultancy Service (NABCONS) assessed requirement of 350 lakh MT capacity of cold storage for perishable fruits and vegetables. As on 31.07.2018, cold storage capacity available in the country was 366 lakh MT.

(b) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for development of Horticulture in the country. Under this scheme assistance for development of Post Harvest Management (PHM) is available. PHM component includes establishment of cold storages, staging cold room, pack house, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere (CA) storage, reefer vans, primary/mobile processing units, integrated pack house, preservation unit (low cost), ripening chambers, onion storage at farm level etc. An entrepreneur can avail assistance for individual component or combination of different components for which credit linked back ended assistance @ 35% in general areas and @ 50% in hilly and scheduled areas is available.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Further, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure as one of the component of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana. Under the scheme Ministry provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 35% for general areas and @ 50% for North East States, Himalayan States, Integrated Tribal Development Project areas and Islands for storage and transport infrastructure. The assistance is available @50% and @75% respectively for value addition and processing infrastructure subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of ₹ 10.00 crore for setting up of integrated cold chain projects including irradiation facilities.

(c) and (d) The schemes are demand and entrepreneur driven. Government does not establish cold storage but provides subsidy to entrepreneurs through State Government for establishment of cold storage.

Under MIDH scheme, State Horticulture Mission, Bihar has provided assistance for establishment of 30 cold storages since 2009-10 to 2017-18 in the Districts of Purnea (4 Nos.), Nalanda (1 No.), Bhagalpur (1 No.), Samastipur (3 Nos.), Patna (3 Nos.), Begusarai (5 Nos.), Vaishali (4 Nos.), Muzaffarpur (3 Nos.), Kishanganj (1 No.), East Champaran (3 Nos.), Gaya (1 No.) and Aurangabad (1 No.).

National Horticulture Board (NHB) under its scheme since 2014 -15 has provided assistance to 3 cold storage in the Districts of Samastipur (2 Nos.) and Katihar (1 No.).

Further, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has provided assistance for setting up of 2 cold chain projects, one each in Vaishali and Muzaffarpur Districts for vegetables and fruits .

#### **Failure of genetical engineered Bt. Cotton**

2592. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that genetically engineered Bt. Cotton has failed in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has failed as a sustainable agriculture technology and therefore also failed to provide livelihood security for cotton growing farmers who are mainly resource poor, small and marginal farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Bt cotton