

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

technology was originally meant for controlling Bollworms *per se*, in cotton and the Bt technology is still offering good control for bollworms (except Pink Bollworm *Spodoptera litura*) for the past 16 years. Even now more than 88% of cotton area is covered under Bt cotton.

(b) In the current Kharif season (2018-19) around 88.27% of the 122.38 lakh ha cotton area is under Bt cotton. Farmers are being advised to follow integrated crop nutrient management, integrated pest management and optimum of higher plant density in the fields to get higher yield.

(c) Not Applicable.

Utilization of funds under MIS

2593. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fund allocated, released and spent during 2017-18 and 2018-19 till 31st December, 2018 under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether onion, tomato and potato produced in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are covered under Market Intervention Scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of procurement under this scheme, State-wise during the current year and last year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Funds are not allocated to the States under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). Instead, Central Share of losses on the implementation of MIS is released to the State Governments/nominated State implementing agencies after vetting the audited accounts submitted by them. Details of Central share released/audited accounts received from State Governments /vetted by Ministry of Finance and its current status during the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 till 31st December, 2018 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) The details of commodities sanctioned under MIS during the current year and last year, State-wise is given in the Statement-II.