

Development of potato seed by 'PepsiCo'

†2226. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the American company, 'PepsiCo' has developed a special variety of seed for potato, if so, the purpose thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that a common farmer cannot grow the crops by using the seed developed by the said company, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the plant protection rights awarded to 'PepsiCo' company in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The PepsiCo has developed two potato varieties, namely, FL 2027 and FL 1867 and registered under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 for a period of 15 years since 18.02.2011. These varieties are being used for manufacturing potato chips, which are sold under the brand name called LAY'S.

Provision is available under Section 39(iv) of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 that the farmers have the right to save, use, sow, re-sow, exchange, share or sell the farm produce from the protected variety under this Act in the same manner, as he was entitled before the coming into force of this Act provided that the farmer shall not be entitled to sell branded seed of a variety protected under this Act.

Settlement of claims under crop insurance scheme

2227. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several claims under crop insurance scheme are pending for settlement in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of crops insured, premium paid to companies and claims made and settled and pending for settlement since last 3 years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) As per provisions of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) admissible claims are generally paid by the insurance companies within two months of completion of Crop Cutting Experiments/harvesting period subject to availability

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.