

Financial assistance is being provided for distribution of hybrid seeds of rice, maize, jowar, bajra, @ 50% cost or ₹ 10,000 per qtl. whichever is less. Similarly financial assistance is also available for promoting use of hybrids of oilseed crops @ 50% cost or ₹ 8,000 per qtl. whichever is less under above schemes.

Misappropriation of MSCS funds

788. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the elected office bearers of a Multi-State Cooperative Society (MSCS) can utilize MSCS funds for their own benefit;
- (b) if not, what action can be taken against them for misappropriating MSCS funds;
- (c) whether they can be prosecuted for offence of fraud, cheating, criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of MSCS funds and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of complaints concerning misappropriation of MSCS funds, received by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies, during the last three years; and
- (e) the details of action taken by Ministry on each complaint?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The cooperative societies which are registered under the provisions of MSCS Act, 2002 are functioning as autonomous cooperative organizations accountable to their members. The powers of the Central Registrar for taking action against the MSCSs are restricted to certain provisions of the MSCS Act, 2002, such as to conduct special audit under section 77, inquiry under section 78, inspection under section 79, giving directions in the public interest under section 122, suppression of board and appointment of administrator under section 123 and winding up under section 86 subject to the conditions mentioned therein fulfilled on. The matter may be taken up with the General Body for appropriate action and also, action may be taken as per the prevailing law of the land.

(d) No complaints are received concerning misappropriation of MSCS funds, in respect of societies attracting the provisions of MSCS Act 2002 stated above, by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies during the last three year

- (e) Does not arise.