

activities in the area of arid agriculture, soil salinity and soil and water conservation/watershed management finfish breeding, seed production and nursery rearing; carp polyculture; ornamental fish breeding and rearing, etc. During the last three years, the KVKs in the Gujarat State have conducted 41890 On Farm Trials (OFTs) and Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs) for technology update and its application in farmers' field; provided training to 1.86 lakh farmers, farm women and extension personnel; created awareness on improved technologies among 53.88 lakh farmers and other stakeholders through various extension programmes. The KVKs also produced 10106 quintal of seeds and 4 lakh of planting materials and analysed 44753 samples of soil and water. Besides, KVKs in the State also provided the mobile-agro advisory to 197.5 lakh farmers on various aspects of farming.

**Coverage of farmer families under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi**

1294. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of farmer families in the country;
- (b) whether the number of farmer families were estimated to be 14.5 crore for the purpose of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme; and
- (c) the criteria followed by Government to arrive at this estimate, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Agriculture census is conducted on a quinquennial basis following census-cum-survey approach to collect data on number of operational holdings (defined as "all land which is wholly or partly used for agriculture production and is operated as one technical unit by one person alone or with others without regard to title, legal form, size or location.") in the country. As per published results of Agriculture Census 2015-16 (Phase-I), the number of operational holdings in the country were estimated at 146.45 million. Total number of farmers are estimated on the basis of operational holdings.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The number of eligible landholder farmer families for the purpose of PM-Kisan Scheme has been estimated on the basis of projection of Agricultural Census 2015-16 data for 2018-19.