

Under Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, financial assistance is provided to state governments for the following training of farmers, demonstrations on farmer fields and organizing farmer melas:

- (i) Training of farmers @ ₹ 24,000/- per training for 2 days with 30 or more participants. So far, 1946 farmer trainings have been sanctioned to states.
- (ii) Organizing field demonstration @ ₹ 2,500/- per ha demonstration. So far, 5.50 lakh demonstrations have been sanctioned to states.
- (iii) Organizing farmer melas / campaigns @ ₹ 1.00 lakh per farmer mela / campaign. So far, 7425 farmer melas / campaigns have been sanctioned to states.

In addition Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) also impart training, organizes front line demonstrations to educate farmers on this aspect.

#### **Fifth Pulses Conclave 2020**

677. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is to host the Fifth Pulses Conclave 2020, if so, the details thereof and the number of stakeholders from India and other countries who are expected to participate in the conference;
- (b) the main theme and the agenda of the Conclave and the benefit India got out of arranging such Conclaves in the past;
- (c) whether India, being the largest producer of pulses in the world, is still the largest importer of pulses; and
- (d) if so, the corrective steps taken by Government to boost pulses production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Yes Sir, India Pulses and Grains Association (IPGA) will host the fifth biennial Global Pulses Conclave from 12-14 February, 2020 at Lonavala, Pune. Over 1000 delegates are likely to attend the Pulses Conclave 2020, with trade delegations from all major pulses producing nations.

(b) The Pulses Conclave provides a platform for domestic and international participants to converge, connect and capitalize on business opportunities.

(c) India being the largest producer of pulses in the world is still the largest importer of pulses. India imports pulses to meet the gap between domestic production and demand.

(d) Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses to increase the production through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Under this programme, assistance is being given to the farmers through State Governments for organizing various types of demonstrations on improved production technologies, seed production and distribution, integrated nutrient and pest management, improved farm implements/resource conservation machines/tools, improved water devices, cropping system based training etc.

Under the programme new initiatives have also been undertaken from 2016-17 onwards. These initiatives are breeder seed production, creation of 150 seed hubs in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), supply of seed minikits free of cost to the farmers, conducting frontline demonstrations on improved latest package of practices by ICAR/SAUs/Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) etc.

Besides, for increasing the production of pulses, the special programmes on inter-cropping of pulses with sugarcane, Targeting Rice Fallow Area (TRFA) for sowing of pulses and Special Action Plan for increasing pulses productivity in low productivity districts of the country have also been initiated.

#### **Implementation of schemes by the Ministry**

678. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new Schemes implemented by the Ministry during the last five years;

(b) the schemes which have been implemented previously but have now been modified, the details of such modifications, scheme-wise; and