

(c) The country has witnessed relatively much faster rate of growth in sectors other than agriculture, resulting in a decline of the share of agriculture and allied sector in the economy. This is on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to industry and service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development process of developing economies including India.

(d) Government of India has been implementing various schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Soil Health Management Scheme (SHM) to increase the production and productivity of agriculture crops.

**Setting up of public grievance cell in Department of Agriculture,
Cooperation and Farmers Welfare**

661. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that public grievance cell has been set up and is functional in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare;

(b) if so, the composition of this cell; and

(c) the number of public petitions/ grievances which have been received through the portal of this cell and how many of them have been disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Public Grievance Cell in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is under the Joint Secretary (O&M/PG) who acts as Grievance Officer of the Department and is also nominated as nodal officer for monitoring redressal of public grievances received in the Department at Headquarters. One Deputy Secretary / Director has been nominated as Staff Grievance Officer to deal with grievances of the employees working in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare for this purpose. Similar arrangements have been made at the level of all Attached and Subordinate Offices and all organizations under the administrative control of this Department in order to ensure expeditious redressal of grievances.

(c) During the period from 2015-20 (from 01.01.2015 to 03.02.2020), 18,189 number of public grievance petitions/suggestions have been received through Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) portal, of which 16,917 number of cases have been disposed of and 1,272 number of cases are pending in this Department.

Refund of premiums under PMFBY

662. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding refund of premiums to farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);

(b) the total amount of refunds that have been credited to the farmers since 2018-19;

(c) the reasons for the refund of premiums and withdrawal of insurance support to farmers; and

(d) whether insurance companies have withdrawn from PMFBY, if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Ministry to ensure complete coverage of all villages/blocks under PMFBY?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) As per provisions of the scheme banks remit the premium to insurance companies within stipulated cut-off date and submit the individual farmer-wise details within 15 days after the cut-off date and upload requisite details of individual farmers within 15 days after the cut off date on National Crop Insurance Portal (NOP). Similarly, non-loanee farmers can also enrol themselves either directly on the portal or through Common Service Centres (CSCs), banks, insurance intermediaries etc. on the NCIP and they have to upload the requisite detailed information and documents, Aadhar Number and remit the premium to concerned Insurance Companies. At the time of reconciliation of premium and data sent by the financial institutions/CSCs/intermediaries, if there is any mismatch between premium and individual farmer's data, the excess premium is returned by the insurance companies to the concerned financial institutions. Further, insurance company also processes the applications and the requisite documents submitted by the farmers, especially non-