

Status of 'The Karnataka Transgenic and Genetically Modified Cotton Seeds' Bill

2261. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Bill named 'The Karnataka Transgenic and Genetically Modified Cotton Seeds (Fixation of Sales Price and Payment of Compensation) Bill, 2015' is pending with the Ministry for the assent of the Hon'ble President of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reason for its pendency?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) No such Bill is pending with the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW). The DAC&FW do not support the enactment of separate Bill, because Seeds is an item of inter-State trade and commerce governed by the Seeds Act 1966. However, the bill was examined by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with DAC&FW. As per the procedure the comments were shared time to time with the State Government of Karnataka the Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that it has requested the State Government of Karnataka to consider withdrawing the Bill.

Utilisation of funds under PM-KISAN Scheme

2262. SHRI K. K. RAGESH:
SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated to PM-KISAN scheme remains under-utilised;

(b) if so, the reasons for such under utilisation of funds; and

(c) the Total fund allocated and utilised for the scheme, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The process of enrollment is being done through States/UTs, which is under process. As on 11.3.2020, the financial benefit under the scheme has been released to 8,69,42,619 beneficiaries. The Government

of West Bengal has not yet decided to join the scheme despite being requested.

(c) The fund allocated and utilization status as on 11.3.2020 are as follows:

Financial Year	Fund Allocated	Fund Utilised
2018-19	₹20,000 crore	₹60,05.48 crore
2019-20 (BE)	₹ 75,000 crore	₹46,645.96 crore
2019-20 (RE)	₹ 54,370.15 crore	

Imparting new technologies to farmers through electronic media

2263. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to educate the farmers of the country through electronic media so that they are aware of the new technologies on farming and other related issues which will benefit them;

(b) whether Government is considering to impart training to the farmers in this direction in view of the increasing methods of farming being adopted across the world and also to compete in the farming field; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) DAC&FW is educating farmers through following use of electronic media as follows:

- Kisan Suvidha mobile app facilitates dissemination of information to farmers on the critical parameters viz., Weather; Market Prices; Plant Protection; Input Dealers (Seed, Pesticide, Fertilizer) Farm Machinery; Soil Health Card; Cold Storages and Godowns, Veterinary Centres and Diagnostic Labs.
- Crop related advisories are regularly sent to the registered farmers through SMSs on mKisan Portal (www.mkisan.gov.in).