

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1791**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/03/2020

**NEW POLICY FOR POTATO SUB-SECTOR**

1791. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

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

- (a) whether 3rd Global Potato Conclave took place at Gujarat recently, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government, with a view to achieve the goal of eradication of hunger and poverty as a part of food security mission, is considering for introduction of a new policy for potato sub-sector and encourage and enhance the potato cultivation in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE**  
**(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)**

(a) Yes, Sir. Indian Potato Association (IPA), Shimla in collaboration with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi and ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute (ICAR-CPRI), Shimla had organized Global Potato Conclave-2020 (GPC 2020) at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat during 28-31 January, 2020. The Conclave had three pillars viz. (i) the Conference, (ii) Agri-Expo, and (iii) Potato Field Day. The Conclave was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. It was attended by over 400 delegates from India and abroad. More than 70 delegates from over 17 foreign nations participated in the Conclave. Altogether 14 Technical Sessions were held in the Conclave which provided an opportunity for researchers to present their work and share their knowledge with national and international scientists and academicians. Various issues related with trade and industries were discussed during the Conclave.

In Agri-Expo, more than 70 companies exhibited their products which included farm implements, chemicals, processing units, storage solutions etc. Besides, seed companies also exhibited their varieties/products. The State Departments, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), ICAR Institutes, several PSUs etc. also participated in the Expo and demonstrated their products, technologies and research and extension activities. About 1,500-2,000 farmers attended the Agri-Expo during three days.

The Potato Field Day was organised at Village Chandarala, Gandhinagar. The live demo of the potato technologies and farm machineries was arranged in about 13 acres of land. More than 10 companies participated in live demo which included demo of the potato varieties, drip and sprinkler irrigation systems, drone technology, potato planter and digger, potato grading machines, potato processing machines, aeroponic unit etc. Besides, exhibitors demonstrated their products/ technologies/ implements etc., in 50 stalls. Over 3,000 farmers and other stakeholders attended this one day event.

- (b) There is no such decision under consideration for introduction of a new policy for potato sub-sector.
- (c) Question does not arise.
- (d) Question does not arise.

\*\*\*\*\*