- (a) whether the Government has received various suggestions from the representatives of agricultural sector to provide relief to the farmers in the upcoming budget of the pre-budget consultation meeting held recently:
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the representatives of farmers have sought provision of sufficient funds to district cooperative banks to provide financial access to farmers and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government on the suggestion and details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

- (a) & (b). Yes, Sir. The Government has received suggestions from the representatives of agricultural sector to provide relief to the farmers in the upcoming budget of the pre-budget consultation meeting. The suggestions from the representatives of agricultural sector regarding provision of relief to farmers relate to schemes like the Jan Dhan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, timely sanction and release of credit, institutional loans to dairy and poultry, interest subvention and issues related to money/credit availability due to demonetisation.
- (c) & (d). Yes, Sir. The representatives of farmers had sought provision of sufficient funds to district cooperative banks to provide financial access to farmers. Accordingly, banks have been advised by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India to make available adequate currency to cooperative banks, to enable them to meet their currency needs for the operations pertaining to the current agricultural operations of the farmers. The availability/receipts of currency by cooperative banks are being monitored on a daily basis. The currency made available to cooperative banks during the period 22nd November to 30th November 2016 was Rs.1816.65 crores.
