No: SFAC/43/Parl.Qus/2023-24 Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium 5th Floor, NCUI Auditorium Building, August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110016

Dated 22.01.2024

To,

Marketing Officer Group-1,
Directorate of Marketing and Inspection,
Department of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare,
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare
HO, Faridabad.

Sub: Provisionally Admitted Question for the Rajya Sabha, D.No. U193 regarding challenges in Management of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to your mail letter dated 22.01.2024 on the above subject. In this regard, point wise reply is furnished as below:

S. No	Query	Reply
a)	The measures taken by the Government to tackle the constraints of poor professional management that is faced by the FPOs.	FPO requires some professionally equipped Manager/CEO to administer its activities and day to day business with a sole objective to make FPO economically sustainable and farmers' benefiting agri-enterprise. The CEO/Manager is appointed by the executive body of the FPO who should be either graduate in agriculture / agriculture marketing / agribusiness management or BBA or equivalent. Locally available professionals with 10+2 and preferably diploma in agriculture / agriculture marketing / agribusiness management or in such other related areas may be preferable. The accountant should have educational qualification of 10+2 with Mathematics as a compulsory subject or alternatively with Commerce or Accountancy background. Under the scheme, financial support towards salary of CEO/Manager up to @ Rs. 25,000/- per month and of Accountant up to @ Rs.10,000/- per month with annual increment up to 5% is to be provided from the earmarked financial support for first 3 years. The Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) support the FPOs with five categories of specialists from the domain of (i) Crop husbandry; (ii) Agri. marketing / Value addition and processing; (iii) Social mobilization; (iv) Law & Accounts; and (v) IT/MIS in agriculture & agriculture marketing. The CBBOs with requisite number of other technical and supporting staff to be housed/operated from their own offices in respective States or from offices of respective Implementing Agencies, which have selected them.
b)	If so, the details thereof; and	
c)	If not, the reasons thereof?	
		To further strengthen the management of FPOs, a Learning Management System (LMS) for 10,000 FPOs (Farmer Producer Organizations) has been developed in the scheme in April 2023. As on date, 736 courses are uploaded, and 25552 users are registered on the LMS portal. Content from various national and state level institutes relevant to the FPOs has been uploaded on the portal. As on date, these modules are available in 8 languages (Hindi, English, Telugu, Oriya, Punjabi, Bengali, Marathi and Kannada). The link for the LMS is https://lokfpo.lms.gov.in/

Yours faithfully

(Dr. Sumathi S) Dy. Director (Admn)