

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2170
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
GROWTH OF RURAL FARM SECTOR
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the rural and farm sector information technology such as providing on line information on modern farm practices, integrated pest management, curing and grading techniques, post-harvest product management and prices prevailing in global markets and at the auction centres to the farmers.

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to involve the NGO's and Self Help Groups to implement other innovative technologies to further speed up the growth of the rural farm sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): To provide on line agricultural information to the farmers and agriculturists, the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with National Informatics Centre have initiated following programmes;

(i) A NICNET based Agricultural Informatics and Communication Network (AGRISNET) connecting the National, State and District Headquarters.

(ii) Agricultural Marketing Information System (AGMARKNET) to facilitate generation and transmission of prices and arrivals information from agricultural produce markets.

(iii) A Computerized Registration of Pesticides (CROP), a package for registration of pesticides and dissemination of Information to safeguard farmers against losses in crop production due to pests and diseases.

(iv) Three Websites have been launched:
(www.agricoop.nic.in, www.dare.nic.in, www.nic.in/dahd)

These websites are linked with other agricultural related institutions/organization State Agricultural Universities to provide comprehensive information on agriculture and allied sectors.

(d): The involvement of NGOs and Self Help Groups in dissemination of innovative technologies have been proposed to accelerate public-private partnership in agriculture extension during Xth Plan.