GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1061
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE ENGINEERING GRADUATE
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to Agricultural/Agriculture Engineering Graduates for their self employment;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether the Government have identified any specific banks to implement this scheme;

(d) if so, the name of such Banks; and

(e) the details of funds cleared so far for this programme?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A new Central Sector Scheme ` Establishment of a Network of Agri Clinics &Agri Business Centres` was launched during 2001-2002. This Scheme was envisaged as a selfemployment scheme for graduates in agriculture and allied subjects with a view to supplement and strengthen the existing government machinery in agricultural extension by harnessing the vast potential of trained agricultural graduates, who are unemployed, in providing expert services and advice to the farmers on cropping practices, adoption of technology, crop protection, technical and other specialized services which will enhance agricultural productivity. The scheme will assist agricultural graduates and graduates in subjects allied to agriculture in setting up Agri clinics/Agri business ventures in identified activities.

(c) & (d): There is no specific bank identified to implement this scheme. Local banks will appraise the Projects proposals submitted by the graduates under the scheme, and if the Project proposals are found to the viable by the local banker, loan under the scheme shall be advanced to the graduate concerned. This is basically a Banking Scheme, where loan shall be disbursed asper existing RBI norms. Loan under the Scheme shall be refinanced by NABARD.

(e): A sum of Rs.1 crore has been released during the year 2001-2002 for implementing the training component of the scheme.