

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3858
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
STRENGTHENING OF DATABASE AND INFORMATION NETWORKING
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had decided to implement 18 schemes including 4 new schemes for strengthening of database and information networking;
- (b) if so, the names of the schemes implemented so far during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise;
- (c) the objectives of these schemes and the extent to which these schemes are beneficial to the common people; and
- (d) the central assistance provided to each State for the implementation of these schemes during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is implementing two schemes to provide improved Services to farmers using Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

(b): The names of Schemes are:

- i) Strengthening/Promoting Agricultural Information Systems.
- ii) Marketing Research and Information Network (AGMARKNET)

(c)&(d): The main objective of the first scheme is to provide information and other services to the farming community with the help of ICT.

One of the components of the first scheme is AGRISNET, under which financial assistance is provided to States for undertaking projects for providing improved services to the farming community using ICT. Four States – Gujarat, Punjab, Kerala and Orissa – have been provided Rs.5.00 lakh each for preparing AGRISNET project proposals.

The AGMARKNET initiative aims to provide information on prices and arrivals of agricultural products in mandis. So far information on 300 commodities from 1357 markets is being provided on the web-based AGMARKNET portal.