

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4671
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006
INDO- US AGREEMENT
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and US at a meeting in February, 2006 have finalized an ambitious work plan for the Indo-US knowledge institute on agriculture;
- (b) if so, whether under this agreement the Government will spent Rs.350 crore in a phased manner over three years;
- (c) if so, whether US investment is yet to be determined;
- (d) if so, whether US has agreed and are preparing a work plan to allow the US to emerge as a directing force in the areas of human resources and institutional capacity, agri processing and marketing; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

- (a) India and US at a meeting in February, 2006 have finalized a work plan for the Indo-US knowledge initiative on Agriculture.
- (b) Under this agreement the Government has provided a budget of Rupees five Crore during 2006-07.
- (c) The US investment is US \$ 8 million for 2006-07.
- (d) The agreed work plan covers joint research, education and training activities benefiting both the countries in the priority areas.
- (e) The joint research, education and training activities cover four priority areas, namely
 - (i) human resource development including learning resources, curriculum development,
 - (ii) food processing, use of bio-product and bio-fuels,
 - (iii) biotechnology and
 - (iv) water management.