

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4846
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008
PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any research project/scheme initiated by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Public-Private Partnership;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount earmarked for each scheme;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether mechanization of farm operations is essential to bring about the next stage of agricultural transformation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ICAR has initiated 'National Agricultural Innovation Project' in July 2006 for a period of six years with the credit assistance from the World Bank at the total outlay of Rs.1189.99 crore. The project mainly envisages researches on production to consumption systems; sustainable rural livelihood security and; basic & strategic research in frontier areas of agricultural sciences. Aforesaid research components are operated in a consortium mode involving partners from both private and public intuition/agencies.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. Mechanization of farm operations is essential to bring about next stage of agricultural transformation. Farm mechanization will improve efficiency, complete the farm operations timely, make available the field for planting next crop on time and reduce the cost of cultivation. The Department through its institutes and All India Coordinated Research Project on Farm Implements and Machinery has developed about 250 farm equipments to carry out different farm operations. It is also endeavoring to popularize the recently developed implements and machinery such as laser land leveler, rotavator, zero-till drill, multi-crop drill, raised bed planter, pre-germinated paddy seeder, mat-type paddy transplanter, sugarcane set cutter planter, automatic potato planter, coconut harvester, coconut climber etc, through its outreach programmes.