

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION
Barman Shri Ranen

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts of West Bengal included in National Food Security Mission (NFSM) alongwith the details thereof, Crop-wise;
- (b) the extent to which productivity of foodgrain is likely to increase in West Bengal due to the inclusion of the districts in NFSM;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated a perspective plan to increase the production of foodgrain by means of improved seeds, fertilizers, levelling of land, etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): In West Bengal, 13 districts namely, 24 Parganas (South), Birbhumi, Cooch-Behar, Dinajpur (North), Dinajpur (South), Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Malda, Midnapur (East), Midnapur (West), Murshidabad, Nadia and Purulia have been included under National Food Security Mission (NFSM). Of these, 8 districts – 24 Parganas (South), Cooch-Behar, Dinajpur (North), Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Midnapur (East), Midnapur (West) and Purulia are covered under National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice); 4 districts – Cooch-Behar, Dinajpur (North), Dinajpur (South) and Jalpaiguri under National Food Security Mission-Wheat (NFSM-Wheat) and 5 districts – Birbhumi, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia and Purulia under National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses).

(b) to (d): National Food Security Mission envisages to achieve additional production of 10, 8 and 2 million tonnes of rice, wheat and pulses, respectively from the identified districts of the country including those of West Bengal by the end of 11th Plan (2011-12). The increase in production has been aimed through promotion of quality seeds of high yielding varieties & hybrids, integrated management of nutrients and soils, mechanization for residue management and resource conservation, demonstrations of improved technologies and capacity building of farmers through training. These interventions are poised to achieve the desired targets of production in the country including West Bengal.