

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4414
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010
INITIATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a new initiative to create awareness to promote joint action on agriculture and health fronts has been launched by the Washington based International Food Policy Research Institute;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to reorient the relative public policies for closer ties between the agriculture and health sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) was founded in 1975. Its mission is to provide policy solutions that reduce poverty in developing countries, achieve sustainable food security, improve health and nutrition, and promote environmentally friendly agricultural growth. As per information provided by IFPRI, it is going to convene a global conference on "Leveraging Agriculture for Improving Nutrition and Health" which will be held in New Delhi on February 10-12, 2011. The Conference proposes to invite experts from agriculture, nutrition and health sectors to speak on why the three sectors should work together more closely and how they could be better linked.

Development and adoption of improved technologies particularly improved varieties possessing high yield, resistant to important diseases and pest, and other desirable traits, plays a major role in enhancing production and productivity of the crops. While formulating public policies in any sector, Government takes into account views of respective Ministries/Departments concerned with the matter.