

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4271

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural research institutions in the country have devised low cost farming techniques;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other research programmes being undertaken by the agricultural research institutes for helping small and medium farmers in the country?

Answer

THE 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) Yes, Madam.

(b) A good number of manually operated, animal operated and power operated farm tools and implements have been developed by the various research Institutions in the country including Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and Centres of All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) located at various institutions for performing various farm operations.

Some of the prominent low cost equipment developed by these institutions are: animal drawn blade harrow, wedge plough, bund former, multi-purpose tool carrier/tool frame, improved puddlers, post hole digger, naveen dibbler, rotary dibbler, zero-till drill, animal operated seed-cum-ferti-drill with planter attachment, garlic planter, pre-germinated paddy seeder, mat type paddy transplanter, manually operated mustard seed-drill, animal drawn sugarcane planter, animal drawn potato planter, manually operated fertilizer broadcaster, manual hand hoe, twin wheel hoe, paddy cono weeder, Naveen sickle, animal drawn groundnut digger, potato digger, vertical conveyor reaper, tubular maize sheller, pedal operated paddy thresher, single earhead thresher, groundnut stripper, Phule sunflower thresher, ground decorticator, pedal operated grain cleaner, potato peeler and slicer, ready to eat various products from soybean, curry leaf stripper, soybean dehuller, low cost bamboo green houses, solar cooker, improved cook stove, solar tunnel dryer, etc.

Besides these various tractor operated improved equipment have also been developed (rotavator, zero till drill, raised bed planter, happy seeder, multi-crop planter, sugarcane cutter planter, mat type self propelled paddy transplanter, vegetable transplanter, high clearance sprayer, aero blast sprayer, orchard sprayer, self propelled and tractor operated vertical conveyor reaper, multi-crop thresher, straw reaper, straw baler, sugarcane stripper, forage harvester etc.) and these are being used by the small and medium farmers as well on custom hire basis.

(c) For helping small and medium farmers and creating awareness about the technologies developed by various institutions, Front Line Demonstrations (FLD) and the On-Farm Trials of the equipment developed is carried out at farmer's field. The equipment and technologies developed are displayed in the Kisan Melas. The organizations are also involved in developing entrepreneurship among the rural youth by conducting training programmes on agro-processing, soybean processing and utilization, agricultural manufacturing technologies etc. Various trainings programmes are also organized for the farmers by the various institutions.