

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1443  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011  
ANNAPURNA PROJECT  
Gavit Shri Manikrao Hodlya

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has recently sanctioned a project called `Annapurna` costing approximately Rs. 70 crore to the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this insurance company has been founded to help the poor farmers; and
- (d) if so, the manner in which this project is likely to benefit the poor farmers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a): Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) has sanctioned the project 'Annapurna' with a cost of Rs.69.62 crore.
- (b):'Annapurna' is a project to provide for IT needs and computerization of general and functional activities of AIC which involve management in the areas of marketing, office service, financial, legal, process, knowledge and human resources, business operations and intelligence, portal etc. Besides, value added services like call centre, SMS gateway, messaging system are also included.
- (c): AIC was formed for the administration of agriculture and allied insurance needs of farming community.
- (d): 'Annapurna' basically aims for improving delivery and service of insurance to farmers. Project is expected to check the loading on the premium on account of manpower cost. It would hugely improve the timeliness and expedite claims settlement to farmers. Project also envisages an inter-active portal which would allow on-line insurance coverage with automatic validation of inputs from database and direct credit of premium to account which in turn would also minimize insurance cost to farmers.