

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:265
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013
INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to increase the investment in the agriculture sector to improve the infrastructure in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether `Indo-American Knowledge Initiative on Agricultural Research and Education` has devised a new framework for cooperation based on agricultural research and development in order to facilitate multi-national companies into the agriculture sector; and
- (d) if so, the details and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b) Government has launched several schemes to increase investment in agriculture sector to improve the infrastructure in the country including in rural areas, such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, improved marketing infrastructure, etc.

(c) & (d) The bilateral cooperation mechanism through Agriculture Knowledge Initiative (AKI) was discontinued in 2008 in view of lack of adequate/proper funding from the US side. In March, 2010, the Government of India and the Government of United States of America signed an MoU on agricultural cooperation and food security under the Indo-US Agriculture Dialogue. In furtherance of this, a partnership agreement viz. Agriculture Food Security Program (AFSP) has been signed between the two Governments on 30th September, 2010, for improvement in curriculum of the Indian agriculture universities and improvement of production/productivity of various crops.