

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4634
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION PROJECT
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the World Bank have been implementing a joint National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) in the country;
- (b) if so, the objectives of the said project and the achievements so far, in various parts of the country;
- (c) the details of funds released by the World Bank so far, under the said project along with the terms and conditions thereof; and
- (d) the extent to which post-harvest losses have been reduced since the implementation of the said project?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The specific objective of the National Agricultural Innovation Project is to accelerate the collaborative development and application of agricultural innovations between public and research organizations, NGOs, farmers, private sector and other stakeholders. Some of the major achievements are as follows:-

Three hundred thirty six (336) entrepreneurs have been incubated and 60 technologies commercialized.

Rice knowledge management portal for providing complete rice information from a single portal has been developed.

An online access to over 2,900 journals to 140 National Agricultural Research System (NARS) libraries has been provided.

Over 610 NARS Scientists have so far been trained in frontier areas of agricultural sciences in the state of art laboratories across the world. 86 national trainings involving international experts have also been sanctioned and more than 80 have been completed.

Research on production to consumption system is covered by 51 consortia working across sub-sectors of Indian agriculture.

Sustained improvement in incomes and well-being of farm families, mainly in disadvantaged areas, have been undertaken in 102 districts of the country.

(c) Till date, an amount of Rs 727.93 Cr. has been released by the World Bank.

There are two credit agreements (No. 4161 and No. 4162) that cover the assistance. The credit agreement number 4161 is for an amount in various currencies equivalent to Special Drawing Rights 41,100,000. The credit agreement number 4162 is for an amount in various currencies equivalent to SDR 97,000,000. Both the agreements carry a commitment charge on the principal amount of the credit not withdrawn from time to time at a rate to be set as of June 30 of each year, but not to exceed the rate of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) per annum. Further, these agreements also carry a liability of a service charge at the rate of three-fourths of one percent (3/4 of 1%) per annum on the principal amount of the credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time. The interest applicable is at the rate of three percent (3%) per annum on the principal amount of the credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time. The repayment of the principal amount of the credit is in semiannual installments payable on each March 15 and September 15 commencing September 15, 2016 and ending March 15, 2041.

(d) The developed and implemented technologies are helping in reducing the post-harvest losses of various commodities in most parts of the country.