

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4633
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
FORECAST ON FARM PRODUCTION
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) are working on accurate forecast of farm production;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds allocated and spent for this purpose, so far?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. Forecasting Agriculture using Space Agro-Meteorology and Land Based Observations (FASAL) Programme has been developed in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to have better pre-harvest crop production forecast for major crop at State/National Level in the country using satellite data for assessing cropped area and agro-meteorological model for estimating yields. These crops include Rice (Kharif and Rabi), Wheat Rapeseed & Mustard, Winter Potato and Jute. The technologies developed and operationalized by ISRO are now being implemented through the Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre with effect from April 23, 2012. The total budget for this activity during 2012-13 was Rs. 8.66 crore.