

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:406

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015

Income of Farmers

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Sampath Shri Anirudhan;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to give more autonomy to scientific research and intervention in the agriculture sector to ensure food security and thereby tackling the hunger challenges in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a comprehensive agricultural policy to ensure a certain income to the farmers for sustaining, managing and boosting agriculture output in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is the apex body to organize scientific research on agriculture and allied activities through its various institutes and centres' spread all over the country. The Council is an autonomous body registered under Societies Act, and is supported by the Government of India. Most institutions under ICAR umbrella plan their research on contemporary agricultural problems under the guidance of their research advisory committees appointed by the Council. The ICAR, through its systematic research and extension, could achieve food production targets by which the country could achieve major breakthroughs in the production of food grains, horticultural produce, milk, fish, eggs, etc. and thus ensure food security as well as nutritional security of our people. The major areas of focus of the ICAR are i) promotion of technological advances and their transfer, aimed at lowering the net production costs, raising the yields and net farm incomes, reducing the use of pesticides and herbicides, and thereby lowering the costs of cultivation ii) the development of new replicable models of sustainable production keeping in mind the prevailing climate change scenario iii) research efforts aimed at developing appropriate models for commercialization of agriculture through value chains and development of appropriate market linkages and iv) capacity building in the National Agricultural Research and Education system (NARES).

(c) to (e): Yes, Appropriate policy and institutional innovations (issues such as strategic planning, priority setting, R&D management, financing, monitoring and evaluation, etc.), are being accorded special attention in the Ministry. With a view to developing a comprehensive agriculture policy and towards enhancing productivity and improving farmers' income, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India has launched a number of new innovative schemes and policy initiatives which include; Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Soil Health Card Scheme, Neem coating of Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana for promotion of Organic Farming Practices and Rashtriya Gokul Mission for promotion of indigenous breeds of cattle. To facilitate better adoption of technologies developed by the research system, the Krishi Vigya Kendras have also been strengthened appropriately. Efforts for the Second Green Revolution are being worked out, keeping the focus on eastern India through a special program called Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India.

In addition the ongoing initiatives like; National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm, National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology, Mission of Integrated Development of Horticulture, National Crop Insurance Programme, Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation, Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing, Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census, Economics & Statistics, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna, National Dairy Plan and National Innovation on Climate Resilient Agriculture are also being strengthened to achieve the goals of food security in the country in an inclusive manner.

All the above schemes are being implemented through the three Departments of the Ministry i.e. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and Department of Agriculture Research and Education.
