

Impact of climatic change on agriculture

139. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken serious cognizance of the climatic change which has disrupted the monsoon and the entire cycle of seasons consequently affecting agriculture; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far and to be taken in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has taken cognizance of the impact of climate change and has prepared the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) to meet the challenges of the climate change. There are eight National Missions under the NAPCC including the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) for making Indian agriculture more resilient to climate change. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and the Department of Agricultural Research and Education have jointly prepared the Mission Document on National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) which contains the adaptation measures required to combat the likely adverse impacts of climate change on agriculture.

Second Green Revolution

140. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government feels it necessary to launch second green revolution in the country to increase food production which is likely to fall short because of the ever growing population; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) The green revolution experienced in India paid rich dividends and the country became self-sufficient in foodgrains. The Eleventh Five Year Plan has set a target to accelerate agricultural growth to 4% per annum. To achieve this objective, the plan outlay for the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has been increased from Rs.13,883 crore in Tenth Plan to Rs.41,337 crore in the Eleventh Plan (excluding State Plan Schemes). Similarly, the plan outlay for the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has increased from Rs.4,422 crore and Rs.2,208 crore in Tenth Plan to Rs.12,588 crore and Rs.8,054 crore respectively during the Eleventh Plan. The Eleventh Plan also envisages improving efficiency of investment, bringing technologies to the farmers and diversifying agriculture to enhance farmers' income while also protecting food security. The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana with an outlay of Rs.25,000 crore in the Eleventh Plan, National Food Security Mission with an outlay of Rs.4,883 crore, National Horticulture

Mission with an outlay of Rs.8,809 crore, Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms with an outlay of Rs.2,000 crore and Macro Management of Agriculture with an outlay of Rs.5,500 crore are some of the major programmes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to achieve the envisaged objectives.

All these schemes and programmes are expected to substantially increase foodgrain production in the country.

National Bamboo Mission in North-East Region

141. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of National Bamboo Mission with special reference to the States of North East Region; and

(b) the details of proposed plan for execution during Eleventh Five Year Plan in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

(a) Government of India has approved on 27th October, 2006 a Centrally Sponsored Scheme titled "National Bamboo Mission" under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for the financial year 2006-07 of the Tenth Plan and first four year (2007-2011) of the Eleventh Five Year Plan at a total outlay of Rs.56823.00 lakhs. The Scheme is being implemented in 27 States, including 8 in North East Region. During 2008-09, a total amount of Rs.8342.86 lakhs was released out of which an amount of Rs.4482.43 lakhs was released to North Eastern States. The year-wise funds released to the North East region including to Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre (CBTC), Guwahati are given in the Statement (See below).

An area of 67564 ha has been brought under bamboo plantation and 18412 ha. of the existing plantations have been improved in North East region. To supply quality Planting material, 548 bamboo nurseries have been established in the region.

The Annual Action Plans for the year 2009-10 from the States, including those in the North East region, are under consideration of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

(b) State Bamboo Steering Committee, Assam under National Bamboo Mission has not approved any consolidated plan for the full Eleventh Five year plan. However, the State proposes to raise about 12,000 ha of bamboo plantation and improve 10,000 ha. of existing degraded bamboo stock during Eleventh Five year plan. Seasoning and treatment plant at Kokrajhar and Silchar will be developed. Capacity building through institutional trainings, both within and outside State, for farmers and field functionaries, will be carried out. Innovation in bamboo handicraft and utility products will be encouraged. The artisans will be provided marketing support for the sale of their bamboo products. Bamboo will be encouraged as industrial raw material in the State.