

(a) whether it is a fact that there is nearly 20 million tonnes shortfall in production of rice in 2009-10;

(b) the quantity of rice that Government is proposed to import from the international markets to make up the deficit of Kharif crop;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is discussing with Thailand Government for import of rice directly without involving private traders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) No, Sir. As per the 2nd advance estimates released on 12.02.2010, the production of rice in the country during 2009-10 is estimated at 87.56 million tonnes which is lower by 11.62 million tonnes as compared to the production of 99.18 million tonnes of rice during 2008-09.

(b) The present stock situation of rice is sufficient to meet the requirement of TPDS and other welfare schemes of the country at the current level of allocation and hence, at present, there is no proposal to import rice for the Central Pool.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Production of Malihabadi dasehri mango**

3850. SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for promotion of production of patented Malihabadi dasehri mango;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to provide infrastructure to Malihabad district; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for bountiful production of this variety of dasehri mango?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The production of Malihabad Dasehri mango is being promoted under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Horticulture Mission Scheme (NHM) and State Sector Scheme for Development of fruit-belts (Non-Plan) in Lucknow district, which includes mango fruit-belt areas of Mall, Malihabad, Kakori and Bakshi-Ka-Talab.

(c) One mango pack-house has already been established at Rehmankhara (6 km. away from Malihabad), which is equipped with desaping, washing, grading, packing and storage facilities for promotion of marketing and export activities, Besides, one Fruit-mandi has also been established at Dubagga near Malihabad for marketing of mango. Auction platforms are also available in this fruit-mandi.

It is proposed to establish one model fruit mandi, 22 post harvest kits, 1 primary processing unit, 1 low energy cool-chamber and 3 functional infrastructure for collection, sorting, grading, packing, etc. at Malihabad.

(d) During 2010-11, following activities are proposed under NHM and State Sector Scheme for Development of fruit-belts (Non-Plan) in Lucknow district for bountiful production of Malihabad dasehri mango:

1. Area expansion under Dasehri mango in 72 ha. and high density area expansion in 15 ha. is proposed.
2. Rejuvenation of senile orchards in 400 ha.
3. Promotion of Integrated Pest Management in 44 ha.
4. Horticulture mechanization - 8 power operated machines.
5. Distribution of foot-sprayers - 66
6. Training of Farmers - 800 (No.)

**Subsidy for drip/sprinkler irrigation**

3851. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:  
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of farming households and how many out of them have adopted drip/sprinkler irrigation in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total hectares under irrigation, and out of this, hectares covered under drip/sprinkler irrigation, in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether as per above statistics, new irrigation system is gaining ground in the country; and

(d) the Central subsidy provided to farmers who adopted drip/sprinkler irrigation during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and number of beneficiaries thereof?

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

(a) Total number of farming households are estimated to be 893.50 lakh, of which 10.32 lakh farmers have adopted drip/sprinkler irrigation system in the country. Number of beneficiaries, State-wise are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Net irrigated area is about 622.87 lakh ha, of which 19.46 lakh ha. is covered under drip/sprinkler irrigation. The State-wise details are in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details of Central subsidy provided to farmers for adopting drip/sprinkler irrigation, year-wise, State-wise is given in the Statement-II.