

Rs. 100 crore for each of these funds, which shall be contributed by Government of India, RBI and NABARD, has been proposed in the Union Budget 2010-11.

Wheat mission in Jharkhand

2118. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not including Jharkhand in wheat mission despite its ideal climatic conditions to grow wheat; and

(b) whether Government intend to encourage tribal farmers particularly in Left Wing Extremists (LWE) districts to grow second crop-wheat so that the farmers may be kept engaged in agricultural activities and grow more grains which would keep them away from naxal activities in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The districts under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) have been selected on the basis of certain criteria. The districts in which irrigation coverage under wheat is more than 50% and productivity is less than State's average were identified under NFSM-Wheat. Since none of the districts of Jharkhand fulfilled the above criteria, Jharkhand was not covered under NFSM-Wheat.

(b) State can utilize the funds provided under other Crop Development schemes of the Ministry such as Macromanagement Mode of Agriculture Scheme, Rshtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana and recently launched programme of "Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern Indian States" that have the same funding pattern as that of National Food Security Mission, for benefiting wheat growing farmers in the state including the farmers in the naxal affected districts.

Seeds Village Scheme

2119. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals for seeds village scheme and for the development of infrastructure under Central Area Scheme from Gujarat;

(b) whether these proposals have been approved;

- (c) if so, the amount released so far; and
- (d) if not, by when sanction would be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government has received proposals for seeds village scheme and for the development of infrastructure form Gujarat under the scheme "Development and strengthening of infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds". An amount of Rs.1665.3621 lakhs has been approved and released for seed village scheme.

Revival plan for agriculture sector

2120. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is trying to corporatise agriculture sector as part of its revival plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would elaborate on the steps taken for land reforms and to provide land to landless; and
- (d) the reasons for rise in the landless labourers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Government is not trying to corporatize the agriculture sector. However, the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 recognizes the need for setting up Farmers' companies to benefit the small and marginal farmers for gaining efficiency and economies of scale in their farming operations. At the same time NPF, 2007 also suggests promotion of cooperative farming and service cooperatives, group farming by self help groups, small holders' estates, contract farming and sate farms for the same objective in the interest of small and marginal farmers.

Land and its management is a State subject and therefore the role of the Central Government in the field of Land Reforms is mainly of an advisory and coordinating nature. Even then keeping in mind the importance of land reforms and in order to get comprehensive recommendations on the matter, a "Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms" under the chairmanship of Union Minister of Rural Development and a "National Council for Land Reforms"