

Promotion of hybrid, based on Chinese model, was highlighted as one of the main interventions that need to be promoted to ensure increase rice production in the eastern region. A task force for hybrid rice promotion was constituted.

Monitoring of programme under NHM

2884. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether under National Horticulture Mission (NHM), web-enabled progress of monitoring the programme has been put in place;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the significant achievements made under the programme in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A web enabled progress monitoring system has been put in place to monitor progress under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) on monthly basis. The system enables online uploading of physical and financial progress for each of the activities approved for implementation as per the Annual Action Plan at the State level as well as at the District level on the NHM web site. The System also facilitates the generation of different types of reports at National, State and District levels for the purpose of analysis and review.

(c) Under NHM, from 2005-06 to 2009-10, 2199 new nurseries were setup, additional area of about 16.56 lakh hectare was brought under new gardens of various horticulture crops and 2.78 lakh hectare of old and senile orchards was rejuvenated. An area of 1.37 lakh hectare was covered under organic farming. Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was adopted in an area of 7.48 lakh hectare apart from setting up of 307 INM/IPM infrastructure (66 disease forecasting units, 78 bio control labs, 95 plant health clinics, 68 leaf/tissue analysis labs). Under Post harvest management component, funds have been provided for setting up of 1328 pack houses, 343 cold storage units, 5 CA storage, 30 refrigerated vans, 346 mobile/primary processing units. To ensure proper handling and marketing of horticulture produce,

funds have been provided for setting up of 32 whole sale markets and 298 rural markets. Total 7.74 lakh farmers have been trained under various horticultural activities.

In Andhra Pradesh, 142 new nurseries were setup during 2005-10. An area of about 1.74 lakh hectare was brought under new gardens of various horticulture crops and 0.57 lakh hectare of old and senile orchards was rejuvenated. An area of 0.09 lakh hectare was covered under organic farming and INM/IPM was adopted in 0.75 lakh hectare apart from setting up of INM/IPM infrastructure. Under the post harvest management component, funds have been provided for setting up of 63 pack houses, 18 cold storage units, 1 refrigerated van and 15 mobile/primary processing units. Under marketing infrastructure, funds have been provided for setting up of 8 wholesale markets and 16 rural markets. Total numbers of 1.95 lakh farmers have been trained under various horticultural activities.

**Development of machineries and technologies for
small and marginal farmers**

2885. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is engaged in developing implements, machineries and technologies appropriate for small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Keeping in view the higher percentage of marginal and small farmers, ICAR has always given due attention to develop implements, machinery and technologies for these category of farmers through the Institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects of Agricultural Engineering discipline spread all over the country, addressing region-specific mechanisation needs.

(c) During the last three years, the following important implements, machineries and technologies suitable for small and marginal farmers have been developed/demonstrated: