

Accordingly, Union Budget 2010 has allocated additional Rs. 400 crores under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana for extending green revolution to the Eastern Region of the country comprising of Bihar, Jharkhand, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and West Bengal for tapping the potential of Eastern Indian Region for enhanced Agriculture production.

In addition to above States, Government, of Assam has also been included under programme with effect from September, 2010.

State-wise allocation and releases made under the programme during 2010-11 is indicated hereunder:—

(Rs. in crores)			
Sl. No.	States	Allocations	Releases
1.	Assam	35.00	—
2.	Bihar	63.94	31.97
3.	Chhattisgarh	67.15	33.58
4.	Jharkhand	29.60	14.80
5.	Orissa	79.67	39.84
6.	Uttar Pradesh	57.27	28.64
7.	West Bengal	102.37	51.19

However, for increasing the production and productivity of foodgrains in the State of Andhra Pradesh, centrally sponsored schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P), sixty thousand “Pulses and oilseeds villages”, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) are presently under implementation.

Gulbarga-Bidar rail line

1878. SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken up the work of Gulbarga-Bidar rail line;
- (b) if so, the latest status of the rail line;
- (c) the total cost of the project and how much money has been released by Government; and
- (d) the action taken by Government to complete this project in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gulbarga-Bidar (140 km.) new line project has been taken up in three phases. In phase-I *i.e.* Khanapur-Homnabad (38 km.), work is in advance stage and expected to be completed in 2010-11. Land acquisition, earthwork and bridge works etc. has been taken up in phase-II of Homnabad-Hallikhed (15 km.) and phase-III of Hallikhed-Gulbarga (53.60 km.).

(c) and (d) The sanctioned cost of the project is Rs. 429.70 crore. Railway have spent Rs. 165.43 crore upto October, 2010. During 2010-11, an outlay of Rs. 60 crore have been allotted for this project. Project is being progressed as per availability of resources.

National Policy for farmers

1879. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 contains provisions to improve economic viability of farming;

(b) whether Government proposes to review/revise the policy to make it more broad based; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Based on the recommendations of the National Commission of Farmers (NCF) headed by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan and consultations with the State Governments as well as the Central Ministries/Departments concerned, the Government of India approved the National policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007. Subsequently, a Plan of Action for Operationalisation of the NPF, 2007 has been finalized and the same was circulated to all concerned for necessary action. One of the major goals of NPF, 2007 is to improve the economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers. NPF, 2007 envisages economic wellbeing of farmers through various broad based measures which *inter alia*, include asset reforms, support services, measures for special category of farmers, special category of farming, and special regions, etc.

Crisis in NAFED

1880. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite making gross profit for last so many years NAFED is facing difficulties in sustaining its operation due to huge losses incurred on tie up business;