

#### **Emission of green house gas**

1055. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the agriculture sector has to find ways to reduce its environmental impact including lowering its own greenhouse gas emission without compromising food security;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Methane and Nitrous Oxide are the two major Green House Gases (GHGs) emitted from rice-ecosystems due to conventional methods of rice cultivation, soil management and crop residue burning etc. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and different State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) have been evolving technologies to reduce these emissions without compromising the food grain production. These technologies include, improved irrigation management, cultivation of aerobic rice, direct-seeded rice and System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and use of neem-coated urea. The agricultural emissions in India have declined from 344.48 million tonnes CO<sup>2</sup> equivalent in 1994 to 334.41 million tonnes CO<sup>2</sup> equivalent in 2007 as per assessment of Indian Network for Climate Change Assessment (INCCA). The contribution of agricultural sector in total emissions has also reduced from 27.6% to 17.6% during the same period.

Recently ICAR has also initiated a programme "National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture" to strengthen the climate change resilient research in agriculture and allied sectors, and demonstrate climate resilient technologies at farmers' fields.

#### **Fee structure in IITs**

1056. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the committee set up to study the road map for the autonomy and future of the IITs had recommended that the fee be raised from Rs. 50,000 per annum to Rs. 2 — 2.5 lakh per annum; and

(b) whether the proposal was rejected by Government and asked to rework the fee structure taking into account the aspirations of all sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Kokodkar Committee set up to study the road map for the autonomy and future of the IITs is yet to submit its report to the Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

**Installation of fog safe device**

†1057. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that installation of 'Fog Safe Device' to tackle fog is estimated to cost around 35 to 45 thousand rupees;

(b) the number of trains decided to be equipped with Fog Safe Device and by when the decision was taken;

(c) whether it is also a fact that while the fog starts setting in from December, the installation of Fog Safe Device was decided to commence from January-February, 2011;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the work of installation of the Fog Safe Device would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This device is a portable device carried by the Loco Pilot and is not fixed on any train. Fog affected Zonal Railways were advised to plan for trial/provision of adequate number of such devices in September, 2010.

(c) No, Sir. The decision to acquire this device was taken in August, 2010.

(d) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.