

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Based on the Report of a Committee constituted by Government of Kerala under the Chairmanship of Agricultural Production Commissioner to study the situation of farmers' suicide in the State and particularly in Wayanad and to discover the early warning signals of farmer's distress, the Government of Kerala has made a request to the Government of India for formulation of a package to support the State Government to save the farmers' bonded in agriculture debt. The areas identified by the committee for urgent intervention includes, credit availability and repayment difficulty; price assurance for commodities; quality of programme implementation; extension, market forecast and counselling; extension of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) coverage to agriculture operations and Protection from and compensation for crop damage by wild life. The Committee's recommendation *inter-alia* includes proposal for suspension of loan recovery process initiated by the Government agencies and Banks for a period of one year.

(c) and (d) The Government is already implementing several flagship schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to improve the condition of agriculture sector in the country.

World bank assistance for agricultural projects

1879. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that assistance from the World Bank under National Agricultural Technology Project (1998-2005) was US \$ 143 million;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the assistance has been increased to US \$ 200 million under National Agricultural Innovation Project (2006-2012);

(c) if so, the details of the projects; and

(d) the achievements made so far, under the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The total budget of the National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) (1998-2005) was 239.7

million US \$ (contribution of World Bank was 196.8 million US \$ and of Government of India was 42.9 million US \$).

(b) The total budget of National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) (2006-2012) is 250 million US \$ (contribution of World Bank is 200 million US \$ and of Government of India is 50 million US \$).

(c) The overall objective of NATP was to revitalize the agriculture technology generation assessment, refinement and dissemination systems.

The NAIP is to facilitate accelerated and sustainable transformation of Indian agriculture in support of poverty alleviation and income generation by collaborative development and application of agricultural innovation by the public research organizations in partnership with the farmer's groups, the private sector, the civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

(d) Salient Achievements of National Agricultural Technology Project and National Agricultural Innovation Project are given in statement.

Statement

Salient achievements of National Agricultural Technology Project and National Agricultural Innovation Project

1. National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP)

NATP was implemented in agro-ecosystem mode addressing following three components:

- (i) Agro-eco system research
- (ii) Innovation in technology dissemination and
- (iii) Organization and management system

The farming system approach adopted in NATP paid rich dividends and helped in developing new research facilities, development of technology for sustainable agriculture and diversification in different production systems. The project also brought public/private partnership, teamwork and networking of researchers from different institutions with improved effectiveness of research. Some of the good results were like zero tillage which shown a high impact on ground including the high benefit cost ratio. The technology dissemination and

refinement programme led to useful fieldworthy technologies and some of these are being used by the farmers.

2. National Agricultural Innovative Project (NAIP)

The ICAR is implementing NAIP with an overall objective to facilitate accelerated and sustainable transformation of Indian agriculture in support of poverty alleviation and income generation through collaborative development and application of agricultural innovations by all stakeholders. Some major achievements are:

- (i) Export of Jasmine flowers by developing a packaging technology with enhanced self-life of flowers upto 72 hours. This enabled the export from villages in a distt. of Tamilnadu to the countries of the Gulf and America.
- (ii) Colours from natural dyes and their combinations from natural sources like flowers, bark etc. have been developed for use as natural dyes, idols textiles, Holi colours and others.
- (iii) Poultry for tribal areas - improved housing, feed and health care have reduced mortality in high value poultry (Kadaknath) in tribal areas like Jhabua in Madhya Pradesh.
- (iv) Online access to international and national journals - Through this project free online access to about 2900 national and international journals has been provided to all the libraries of NARS i.e. ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities for facilitating scientific community searching for the work already done across the globe in a particular area.

Impact of excessive use of imported and hybrid seeds

1880. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that excessive use of imported and hybrid seeds of various foodgrains is resulting in extinction of local foodgrains known for their own aura and taste;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) There is no extinction of local food grain materials. However, the area under the traditional