

Celebration of World Food Day

2679. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has celebrated World Food Day recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the objectives set therein and achieved, so far, State-wise, especially in Madhya Pradesh and the funds earmarked and spent, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Food Day (WFD) was celebrated this year on 17th October. Theme for this year's WFD was "Food Prices: From Crisis to Stability." Message of Union Agriculture Minister on this occasion was published in leading newspapers throughout the country. Besides, a roundtable discussion on the WFD theme was organized on 17 October, 2011 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission.

(c) There is no state-wise specific objective set for this purpose including for Madhya Pradesh. Central Government does not earmark any funds to States for observation of this Day.

Vegetables Initiative for Urban Clusters

2680. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of progress of Vegetables Initiative for Urban Clusters announced by the Ministry; and
- (b) the amount spent since its inception, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) During 2011-12, Government has launched a new programme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) with an outlay of Rs. 300 crore, within the overall aegis of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The Scheme is being implemented in one city each of 29 States which is either the State capital or any other city with a population of over one million. If there is no city which satisfies these criteria, then other urban cluster closer to one million populations has been allowed to be selected for the purpose. Initially, the programme will be implemented for a period of one year (2011-12). Following progress has been made by the Ministry of Agriculture under Vegetables Initiative for Urban Clusters:—

- (i) Guidelines, alongwith allocation of funds were communicated to all States in April, 2011 with the request to formulate Project proposals for approval by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC).
 - (ii) National Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (A&C) to review and monitor the Scheme, which has last reviewed the progress on 13th October, 2011.
 - (iii) Workshop on Baseline Survey (BSL), Farmer Clusters and Tie up with Market Aggregators was organized in April, 2011.
 - (iv) Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) was identified as the Nodal Agency to provide technical support for conducting Base Line Survey, formation of Farmers Interest Group (FIG) and Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) and their tie up with Financial Institutions and Aggregators.
 - (v) Projects have been approved by SLSCs in all States and Union Territories except Delhi.
 - (vi) Four Video Conferences were held under Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (A&C) to review the progress with States in July, October, November and December, 2011.
 - (vii) Chief Consultants of this Department are visiting States regularly to monitor the programme implementation in the field. Senior officers of the Department are also advised to review and monitor this scheme while on tour to the States.
 - (viii) The BLS work has been completed in all the states. Work on identification of clusters, formation of Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) was taken up through Resource Institutes identified by SFAC. So far, 0.40 lakh farmers have been mobilized by forming 2086 FIGs.
 - (ix) Market Aggregators have been identified for the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
- (b) An amount of Rs. 154.19 crore has been released to all States under the scheme except Delhi. State-wise details of funds sanctioned and released are given in the Statement.

Statement

*State-wise details of allocation and release of funds during 2011-12
under Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17.00	17.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.50	1.75
3.	Assam	12.00	6.00
4.	Bihar	12.00	6.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	12.00	6.00
6.	Goa	3.50	1.75
7.	Gujarat	12.00	6.00
8.	Haryana	12.00	6.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12.00	6.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12.00	6.00
11.	Jharkhand	12.00	6.00
12.	Karnataka	17.00	8.50
13.	Kerala	12.00	6.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12.00	6.00
15.	Maharashtra	17.00	8.50
16.	Manipur	3.50	1.75
17.	Meghalaya	3.50	1.75
18.	Mizoram	3.50	1.75
19.	Nagaland	3.50	1.75
20.	Orissa	12.00	6.00
21.	Punjab	12.00	6.00

1	2	3	4
22.	Rajasthan	12.00	6.00
23.	Sikkim	3.50	1.75
24.	Tamil Nadu	17.00	8.50
25.	Tripura	3.50	1.75
26.	Uttar Pradesh	12.00	6.00
27.	Jharkhand	12.00	6.00
28.	West Bengal	17.00	7.69
29.	Delhi	7.00	–
TOTAL STATES:		300.00	154.19

Financial assistance for construction of ice plants and cold storages

2681. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of proposals were submitted to the Ministry by NGOs for financial assistance for construction of ice plants and cold storages by them;
- (b) whether Government had earlier accorded approval to such proposals;
- (c) the number of such proposals received from NGOs, etc.;
- (d) the details thereof; and
- (e) by when these proposals will be approved and funds released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Details of the proposals received during the current plan period including costs, status and financial assistance provided by the Ministry of Agriculture under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations are given in the Statement.