

Name of Scheme	Amount released (Rs. in crore)
RKVY	571.22
ISOPOM	7.55
NMMI	31.72

(c) Funds for the year 2012-13 have already been disbursed against the above scheme.

Promotion of drip irrigation system

3420. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to slate:

(a) whether it is a fact that sugarcane crop and rose plants consume a lot of water;

(b) whether it is also a fact that cultivating these crops regularly is one of the reasons for drought situation in Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra has made it mandatory for sugarcane growers to use drip irrigation system over the next three years for sugarcane crop; and

(d) if so, whether Government would encourage drip irrigation system across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) Sugarcane consumes relatively more water for realizing optimum crop yields as compared to many other crops like wheat, pulses and coarse cereals. However, Maharashtra is witnessing consecutive drought situation beginning from Rabi-2011-12 and continuing through Kharif-2012 and Rabi-2012-13. primarily on account of deficit rainfall in several parts of the State during intervening period; there is no empirical evidence to suggest that the drought situation in Maharashtra is due to cultivation of sugarcane and rose.

(c) and (d) For judicious use of water, Government of India is promoting

implementation of drip and sprinkler irrigation system for both horticulture and agriculture crops including sugarcane and rose in the country, including Maharashtra under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Mission on Micro Irrigation.

Price rise in NCAER report

†3421. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the quarterly agricultural outlook report prepared by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) of the department of Agriculture the prices of wheat, rice and onion will continue to remain increased upto March 2013;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the grounds of rise in inflation have also been mentioned in this report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR) : (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) has sponsored a Project to National Council of Applied Economic Research (an independent body and not a part of DAC) on “Agriculture Outlook and Situation Analysis for Food Security” under National Food Security Mission. As per “The Quarterly Agricultural Outlook Report” December, 2012 submitted by NCAER under the project, wheat price is to stabilize at the current high level and expected to decline from April, 2013. The price increase scenario is seen to be a concern in the next few months in the case of wheat, pulses and onion also. In general, for the food sector as a whole, the prices would remain a concern until the rabi harvest 2012-13 produce begins to come into the market.

(c) and (d) As mentioned in the report, the factors affecting the price scenario in the report are the poor production of wheat and coarse cereals globally in 2012-13 because of weather related adverse conditions particularly in the USA, Ukraine and Russia; weak monsoon in India affecting kharif production and the increase in minimum support price of rice and wheat.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.