

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1616
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
AGREEMENT WITH AMERICA/SRI LANKA
MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agreement has been signed by India with America and Sri Lanka for cooperation in the field of agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian Government have implemented this agreement;
- (d) if so, the achievements made so far; and
- (e) if not, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) The following Agreements/Memorandum of Understanding have been signed with America/Sri Lanka for cooperation in the field of agriculture:

- i) Agreement on cooperation in the Agricultural Sciences between the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) signed on 27th January 1996
- ii) Memorandum of Agreement between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi and Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (CARP), Sri Lanka for Scientific and Technical cooperation signed on 2nd July, 1998.
- iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), India and the Ministry of Livestock Development and Estate Infrastructure, Government of Sri Lanka for Planning and Implementation of the Livestock Breeding Project in Sri Lanka signed on 16th April, 1998.

(b) The Agreement signed with America envisages collaboration among agricultural scientists and institutions of agricultural research development and higher learning between India and the United States of America, to provide agricultural researchers and institutions with opportunities to exchange information ideas, skills and techniques, to enhance opportunities to collaborate in solving problems of common interest relating to agriculture, and to utilise special agricultural and development facilities.

The Memorandum of Agreement signed with Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy is for scientific and technical cooperation.

The Memorandum of Understanding signed between NDDB with Sri Lanka aims at planning and implementation of the Livestock Breeding Project in Sri Lanka. The project is for a period of 10 years duration with estimated cost of Rs.297 million. The main objective of the project is to attain substantial growth in the milk sector in Sri Lanka.

(c) to (e) The Work Plan for implementation of the Agreement with USDA was sent to them on 26.8.96. Their response is still awaited.

The Work Plan for biennium 2000-2001 was signed by ICAR with CARP, Sri Lanka on 10.2.2000 for implementing the Memorandum of Agreement. Action has already been initiated for exchange of study visits and training of students from Sri Lanka.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding signed by NDDB with Sri Lanka, the role of NDDB is limited to providing technical assistance to the project by deputising its consultants to Sri Lanka and give training to the project staff in India deputed by Sri Lanka. The action on the part of NDDB entails only on receipt of proposals from Sri Lanka.