

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:701

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005

INDO- PAKISTAN COOPERATION IN AGRO- SCIENTIFIC SECTOR

Khanna Shri Avinash Rai;Varma Shri Ratilal Kalidas

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Universities are considering for mutual cooperation in agro-science sector with Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any dialogue took place between them in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana has initiated a proposal to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (Pakistan) for cooperation in Agriculture. The main emphasis under this Memorandum of Understanding will be on

(i) Varietal Development

(ii) Agronomic Practices

(iii) Scientific Information

(iv) Development of Joint Research Programme

(v) Post Harvest Technologies

(vi) Warehousing & related infrastructure. Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar has also initiated a proposal to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, Faisalabad.

The main activities envisaged under this Memorandum of Understanding are

(i) Faculty and students exchange program

(ii) Collaborative research projects

(iii) Short-term training programmes

(iv) Exchange of teaching materials and other related literature

(v) Participation in Seminars and meetings

(vi) Cultural Exchange Program.