

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3838
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2006
AGREEMENT WITH AMERICA
Sippiparai Shri A. Ravichandran

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any memorandum of understanding signed between the US department of agriculture, the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur in July 2006;
- (b) whether the Government decided to create modern marketing infrastructure with the help of US for capacity building and creating model markets in States; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) Jaipur signed a Memorandum of understanding

(MOU) on 11.07.2006 to collaborate on strengthening agricultural marketing systems in India.

(b)&(c) Under the agreement, USAID would work with NIAM and state agencies for technical assistance and capacity building in the development of grades and standards, food safety, warehousing, cold storage and cold chain management. They would also work in the area of Marketing News Information and Marketing Extension System .