

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:807

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007

EDUCATION TO FARMERS

Budholiya Shri Rajnarayan;Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Kripalani Shri Srichand;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has stressed the need to revamp and upgrade the agricultural education in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the agricultural production in the country has stagnated and is fully dependent on rains;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has formulated any concrete plan to encourage agricultural education in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the amount allocated/sanctioned by the Government to the States during the last three years and the current year for strengthening the agro-education, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (g) the amount earmarked for strengthening the agro-education for the States during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For revamping and upgrading of the agricultural education in the country, an additional grant of Rs.200.00 crore during the year 2006-07 has been sanctioned for the State Agricultural Universities/Deemed Universities/Central Universities having faculty of agriculture for the projects like Experiential Learning - Hands on Training, Niche Areas of Excellence, Human Resource Planning, curriculum planning and reorientation, engendering course curricula, replacement of obsolete equipments and purchase of the state of art equipments to support post graduate research and basic and frontier science subjects and to promote distance education by strengthening information communication technology facilities.

(c) No, Sir. The agriculture production as a whole has not stagnated. Only about 45% of the total foodgrains production in the country comes from rainfed areas.

(d) & (e): Question does not arise.

(f) & (g): The amount allocated/sanctioned to the Agricultural Universities during the last three years and current financial year is given in the statement annexed. During the 1st year (2007-08) of the XI Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs.290.00 crore has been allocated for strengthening and development of agricultural education.