

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:845

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007

MULTI-STATE AGRICULTURE COMPETITIVENESS PROJECT

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any scheme with World Bank to develop competitive marketing system and improve market access for farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the World Bank has funded the Multi-State Agriculture Competitiveness Project to promote competitive marketing system in India;
- (d) if so, the assistance provided by the World Bank to each State for the purpose; and
- (e) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): There is a proposal to develop a Multi-State Agriculture Competitive Project with assistance from World Bank to foster the development of more competitive marketing system and improvement in market access for farmers, through knowledge and more effective producer organizations. The proposed project would be linked to undertaking end-to-end reform of agricultural marketing sector and in the first phase, three or four states would be considered for implementation of the project. Depending on the proactiveness of the other states, the project could later be extended. It is assessed that the size of the project in each State would be tentatively of the order of Rs.300.00 crore. Each State project would be taken on stand alone basis and the assistance would be made on back to back basis through State sector project.

The project is envisaged to be implemented from December, 2007 subject to the approval by Planning Commission and acceptance of terms and conditions by the respective State Governments.