

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:194
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2016
Application of IT in Agriculture
Singh Dr. Bhola

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether scope of income avenues to farmers have arisen through application of Information Technology in agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has plans to introduce new information technology initiatives for agriculture sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Government of India is implementing "National e-governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGP-A)" in the entire country with a total project cost of Rs.885.79 crore. It aims to provide information to farmers free of cost on seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, Government schemes, soil health, crop management, farm machinery, fishery inputs, irrigation infrastructure, weather and marketing of agriculture produces through various Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) enabled means like short messaging service (SMS), Interactive Voice response system (IVRS) etc. Through these interventions the farmers productivity and income is bound to increase as lot of information to farmers that are being provided help them in taking rational decisions.