

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5770
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD APRIL, 2018

ADVANTAGES OF SPACE TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS

5770. DR. K. GOPAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to launch a nationwide programme to harvest the advantages of space technology in agriculture and allied sectors and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is also considering to set up seed production and processing units at panchayat levels and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that the Government is considering to increase cropping intensity by 1 million hectares per year through the utilization of rice fallow areas for pulses and oil seeds and consolidation of online trading and inter marketing transactions among others; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): Yes, Madam. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is proposing a nationwide programme called National Programme on use of Space Technology for Agriculture (NPSTA) to harvest the advantages of space technology in agriculture and allied sectors. This programme has four sub-programmes viz. (i) Crop Assessment & Monitoring; (ii) Agricultural Resources Management; (iii) Disaster Monitoring and Mitigation and (iv) Communication and Navigation Applications.

(b): For setting up of 300 new Seed production, processing cum seed storage godown units of 500 metric tons capacity each @ Rs.60.00 lakh each at Gram Panchayat level in the country, an amount of Rs.180 crore has been released to States during 2017-18.

(c) & (d): A project to cover 4.5 million hectare rice fallow area @ 1.5 million hectare area per year under oilseeds and pulses for 3 years i.e. 2017-18 to 2019-20 in the six eastern states namely Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, and West Bengal is under implementation. To increase production and productivity of oilseed crops through an integrated and comprehensive approach, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) is also being implemented from the year 2014-15 in the major oilseeds growing States. Further, to develop Common Agriculture Market, the Government has launched National Agriculture Market (eNAM) project on 14.04.2016. 585 regulated markets across the country have been integrated with e-NAM. The e-NAM would facilitate farmers for on-line trading of their agricultural produce in any market integrated to the portal, and due to online competitive bidding method for price discovery, helps them to get remunerative price for their agri-produce.
