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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3935 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH. 2025

NATIONAL CLIMATE FUND

3935. SHRI SASIKANTH SENTHIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government acknowledges the impact of climate change on food productivity and the associated risks to long-term food security, if so, the details of the impact of climate change on Indian farmers and food production;
- (b) whether the Government is considering the constitution of National Climate Fund for Agriculture to support the adoption of climate-resilient technologies and practices, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of measures that are taken to leverage on-farm investments to enhance agricultural resilience to climate change?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि और किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): Yes, climate change is known to impact food productivity and the associated risks to long-term food security. To address the impact of climate change on agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is implementing a project, National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA). District level risk & vulnerability assessment has been carried out for predominantly agriculture districts using intergovernmental panel and climate change (IIPCC) protocol. 109 districts are categorized as very high and 201 as highly vulnerable NICRA conducts studies on climate change on agriculture & develops and promotes climate resilient technologies.
- (b): There is no such proposal to constitute National Climate Fund for Agriculture in the Ministry.
- (c): To support the adoption of climate-resilient technologies and practices, several schemes have been initiated under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) by the Government. Per Drop More Crop scheme increases water use efficiency at the farm level through Micro Irrigation technologies i.e. drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. Rainfed Area Development (RAD) focuses on Integrated Farming System for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variability. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, Agroforestry & National Bamboo Mission also promote climate resilience in agriculture.

The Government is advancing agricultural productivity through a broad range of centrally supported initiatives such as developing infrastructure, enhancing crop and horticultural practices, and ensuring seed quality. To improve storage facilities, the Government is implementing the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme, which provides assistance for the construction or renovation of godowns and warehouses in rural areas. AIF facilitates medium- and long-term loans from banks and other lending institutions for farm-gate and aggregation point projects.
