

Media Release

**Jharkhand Received Rs. 1850 Crore as
Agriculture Advances in Last Four Years**

-Prof. Thomas

**MP Mr. Nathwani Raises Queries
on State of Agriculture in Jharkhand**

Ranchi: July 4, 2009: Rajya sabha MP from Jharkhand Mr. Parimal Nathwani raised a fleet of queries in rajya sabha yesterday concerning state of agriculture in Jharkhand. In an unstarred question about agricultural schemes in the state, Mr. Nathwani wanted to know from the agriculture minister the details of total advances for agriculture and animal husbandry activities to the farmers of Jharkhand and the plan to enhance agriculture limit.

In his categorical reply, the minister informed the house that agriculture flow to Jharkhand during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 was Rs. 505.88 Crore, Rs. 619.49 Crore and Rs. 565.18 Crore respectively. During the year 2008-09, the credit flow, excluding the commercial banks, was Rs. 159.17 Crore, the minister stated.

The minister further stated that a total number of 29 dairy units and two poultry units were sanctioned for the state with a total interest free loan amounting to Rs. 56.345 lakh till May 31, 2009. This was under a central scheme viz. Venture Capital Fund for Dairy and Poultry Sector started in 2004-05.

The minister also informed that Jharkhand was participating in National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding since 2006-07. This is a central government scheme for comprehensive implementation centrally sponsored projects. Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 617. 40 Lakh was released to the state for implementing the project up to 2008-09, it was stated.

In another question, Mr. Nathwani wanted to know whether there was any plan to set up agriculture technology park or agro-economic zone or floriculture research centre or logistics chain in the state.

The minister of state in the agriculture ministry in charge of consumer affairs, food and public distribution Prof. KV Thomas denied having such plan for the state. He however stated that the ministry of food processing industries had approved setting up of a mega food park at Ranchi under infrastructure development scheme in the 11th plan period.

The minister also informed that the department of commerce had approved and signed an MoU for setting up of agri-export zone for vegetables for Jharkhand in February 2003 but it didn't progress further.

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