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Answer to the Lok Sabha Question Diary 4110

a) whether the country has posted higher farm output and rise in net income of farmers due to improved meteorological advisory services as study and if so, the details thereof;

P Maini and LS Rathore (2011, Current Science) has assessed the economic impact of agrometeorological advisory services of India (Publication is enclosed). They has conducted a pilot study at 15 out of 127 agrometeorological field units (AMFU) of the country, with a sample set consisting of 80 farmers (40 adopting farmers and 40 non-adopting farmers in each AMFU). They had concluded that farmers those who followed agromet advisory services (AAS) accrued a net benefit of 10-15% in the overall yield and a 2-5% reduction in cost of cultivation compared to non-adopters of AAS.

b) Whether it is a fact that still nearly 75% of Indian farmers lack reliable access to improved meteorological advisory and if so, the reasons therefore;

As per the report by India's National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) (2010), only 24% of India's farmers have the access to improved meteorological advisory. Ganesan and co-workers in 2013 has found that lack of quality, timeliness and reliability of AAS were the three important reasons for lesser accessibility of AAS among farmers.

c) Whether there is any proposal to forecast weather at the block-level and if so, the details thereof;

IMD has already started providing block-level weather forecast for many blocks in India on a pilot basis. The 5-day weather forecast at block level is available in IMD Website (www.imd.gov.in). The link for more information is mentioned below.

http://202.54.31.51/bias/blf_main.php