



# Rs 1,190-cr project to boost agri research

**Our Bureau**  
 NEW DELHI

**T**HE government has approved two projects to boost research and education in agricultural science. The Rs 1,190-crore National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP), approved by the Union Cabinet here on Thursday, aims to give a strong impetus to agricultural research. The six-year project, involving a \$200-million credit line from the World Bank, would be implemented from July 1 this year, information and broadcasting minister PR Dasmunshi told reporters after a Cabinet meeting.


The Cabinet committee on economic affairs (CCEA), in the meanwhile, approved allocation of Rs 200 crore for improving agricultural education for the remaining period of the Tenth Plan. This is over and above the Rs 720 crore already allocated for this purpose.

Under NAIP, research would be done on produc-

tion and consumption systems, sustainable rural livelihood security and basic and strategic research in frontier areas in agricultural science. The decision would result in about 15 value chain development reports for serving as models for other potential areas and investment planning.

The initiative also aims at production of 20 sustainable rural livelihood models for replication in other disadvantaged areas and genera-

tion of about 25 patents of scientific and economic significance, Mr Dasmunshi said. About 100 research papers would also be published. Of the total project cost, Rs 685.86 crore would go towards investment and Rs 504.13 crore towards recurring cost. The different components of the project would be implemented by a large network of public research institutions, private sector, NGOs and other stakeholders, said an official release.



**GREEN REVOLUTION**

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UNION CABINET APPROVES NAIP