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MESSAGE

I am pleased that the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI), New Delhi, an Institute under the ICAR umbrella, has recently completed a study relating to formulation of long-term mechanization strategies for different agro climatic zones of India.

Though there has been a considerable progress of mechanization in agriculture in our country, its spread has still been uneven. Hence promotion of mechanization needs to be taken up in different regions keeping in view their specific requirements and agro climatic requirement. No concerted efforts seems to have been made so far for the identification of location specific farm implements and machines to be utilized by the farmers and their promotion. In view of this felt need of formulating a long-term mechanization policy/strategy, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DOAC), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India commissioned the study by awarding the work to IASRI.

Under the study a large scale sample survey relating to farm mechanization has been conducted by IASRI in 120 randomly selected districts of the country, on the basis of which long-term mechanization strategies for each agro climatic zone/State have been formulated. I do believe that these mechanization strategies will be very useful to planners and policy makers at the State/country level in taking useful policy decisions. For operationalization of the strategies outlined in the study report, timely initiative, would have to be undertaken to upgrade the institutional framework, at State/national level under which the tasks could be implemented.

I compliment the scientists and farm mechanization experts involved in the study.

(RADHA SINGH)



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MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to know that a project entitled "Study relating to Formulating long-term Mechanization Strategy for each agro climatic Zone/State" funded by DAC has been completed by the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI), New Delhi.

Farm Mechanization facilitates faster agricultural growth through efficient utilization of inputs by ensuring timeliness of agricultural operations, reducing cost of production as well as reducing drudgery in carrying out various agricultural operations. It is generally believed that the benefits of modern farm technology have been availed of only by large farmers. The fact, however, is that even small farmers utilize selected farm equipment for efficient farm operations through custom hiring. The present report highlights finding of a large scale sample survey conducted by IASRI in 120 randomly selected districts of the country, based on which long-term mechanization strategies for different agro climatic zones/States have been prepared. It is hoped that these mechanization strategies will be very much useful to the scientists, policy makers, and planners at the State/country level for taking policy decisions in this regard.

I would like to complement the IASRI team involved in the execution of the project and preparation of this publication and hope that the publication proves to be a very useful document in the years to come.

(MANGALA RAI)

Dated the 2nd May, 2006
New Delhi

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MESSAGE

I am extremely happy to know that the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI), New Delhi has recently completed a project entitled “**Study relating to Formulating Long-term Mechanization Strategies for each Agro Climatic Zone /State**”, funded by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DOAC), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

For modernizing agriculture, one of the important components is agricultural mechanization. However, the high cost of machinery and shortage of power and equipment should not deprive farmers of the opportunity to modernize production agriculture. This can be achieved by increasing custom hiring of costlier machinery.

A large scale sample survey relating to farm mechanization has been conducted by IASRI in 120 randomly selected districts of the country and on the basis of results obtained, long-term mechanization strategies for each Agro Climatic Zone/ State have been formulated. I am of the strong opinion that these mechanization strategies will be useful to the planners and policy makers at the State/Country level.

I compliment all the concerned officials at IASRI and the experts involved in the preparation of this publication for their sincere efforts.


01.5-06
(NAWAB ALI)

Dated the 1st May, 2006
New Delhi - 110012