Fact Sheet on U.S.-India Cooperation In Agriculture -- Partnership For An Evergreen Revolution

Today, Prime Minister Singh and President Obama agreed to work together to develop, test, and replicate transformative technologies to extend food security in India as part of an “Evergreen Revolution.” These efforts build on the historic legacy of cooperation between the United States and India during the Green Revolution, and will benefit farmers and consumers in India, the United States, and around the globe, and will extend food security in India, Africa and globally.

The Partnership for an Evergreen Revolution will contribute to achieving the objectives of the U.S. global development policy, which places a premium on broad-based economic growth as the foundation for sustainable development, and the bilateral U.S. Feed the Future Initiative, which focuses on creating a foundation for sustainable economic growth by helping countries accelerate inclusive agriculture sector growth through improved agricultural productivity, expanded markets and trade, and increased economic resilience in vulnerable rural communities.

The partnership will leverage Indian and U.S. expertise in a number of agreed-upon activities, including the following:

Enhanced Weather and Climate Forecasting for Agriculture: U.S.-India collaboration will give farmers reliable information and tools to enhance agricultural production and manage the risks of weather-related crop loss in the context of changing climatic conditions and shifts in the global agricultural market. This includes building a broad U.S. and Indian interagency partnership to: (1) Enhance forecast systems in India in advance of the 2011 monsoon season; (2) Advance crop forecasting and strengthen agricultural market outlooks; and (3) Improve water resource modeling and flood forecasting for agricultural management.

Improved Food Processing and Farm-to-Market Links: The United States and India will collaborate to foster an improved food value chain, reduced losses and an Indian food processing industry by focusing on: (1) marketing, cold chain logistics, and sharing of market knowledge by introducing Indian private entrepreneurs and public sector officials to U.S. best practices, standards and technologies in cold chain infrastructure; (2) technology transfer, such as in packaging or water recycling; and (3) programs to improve quality, safety, and professional certification.

Partnering for Global Food Security in Africa: The U.S.-India partnership will leverage unique Indian capabilities to collaborate with U.S., African, and other international partners to improve food security. Specific activities include: (1) harnessing frontier technologies for food security and climate-resistant agriculture; (2) promoting conservation agriculture and natural resource management; and (3) linking U.S., Indian, and African universities to improve the knowledge base for agricultural extension and innovation.

Promoting Improved Agricultural Trade: U.S.-India agricultural cooperation and India’s own agricultural productivity will benefit from policies that remove or reduce barriers to trade and
investment. The U.S. and India continue an ongoing bilateral dialogue on agricultural trade issues in the Trade Policy Forum Agricultural Focus Group.