

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:213
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2000
INCREASE IN AGRICULTURAL GROWTH RATE
GANTA SRINIVASA RAO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Agricultural accounts for 29.4 percent of the GDP and 64 percent of the labour force; and
- (b) if so, the efforts made by the Union Government to increase the growth rate in order to promote the export of agriculture products?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) According to advance estimates of National income prepared by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the agriculture and allied sector accounted for 25.5 percent of GDP at constant prices during 1999-2000. However, as per "New Series on National Accounts Statistics" brought out by CSO, the percentage of workers in agriculture was 64 percent as on 1.10.93.

(b) To increase the production and productivity various crops, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System approach, National Pulse Development Project and Oilseeds Production Programme etc. Under these programmes, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation and improved farm implements. In addition, field demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Further, a central sector scheme on development of fruits and vegetables is being implemented. Under fruit scheme, assistance is being provided for establishment of nurseries and tissue culture units for distribution of quality planting material, area expansion, frontline demonstration, rejuvenation of senile orchards, training of farmers, disease forecasting units, horticulture mechanization. Under the scheme of Integrated Development of Vegetables, the emphasis is laid on production of planting material especially onion and potato, improvement of production and productivity, technology transfer, on farm post-harvest handling and development of information system.