

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:221
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2000
RATE OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rate of agricultural development was earlier fixed at 4.2%;
- (b) if so, whether the agricultural development now stands at 1.3%;
- (c) whether due to this decline in agricultural development the production of oil seed, paddy and sugarcane are likely to suffer; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) No, Sir. In the Ninth Five Year Plan, a target of 4.5 per cent annual growth rate in Gross Value of Agricultural Output excluding forestry, has been fixed.

(b) Yes, Sir. The growth rate of agriculture and allied activities has declined to 1.3 per cent during 1999/2000 according to National Accounts Statistics 2000 (Constant price 1993/94).

(c) The production of oilseeds, sugarcane and rice during 1999/2000 as compared to 1998/99 is given below:

(Million Tonnes)

Crop 1998/99 1999-2000 (Advance Estimates)

Oilseeds	25.21	21.18
Rice	86.00	88.25
Sugarcane	295.73	309.31

(d) The Government is promoting several crop-based schemes, and schemes for provision of quality inputs, as well as schemes for optimum water use such as sprinkler irrigation and drip irrigation systems and construction of check dams to improve ground water availability.