

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1368
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
RATE OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the rate of Agricultural Development is slow in comparison to the rising population; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the threat?

Answer

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

(a) According to Technical Group on Population Projection constituted by the Planning Commission, the annual compound growth rate of population during 1996 to 1999 is estimated at 1.65% per annum. The compound growth rate of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) at 1993-94 prices during 1996-97 to 1999-2000 for agriculture and allied sector, according to advance estimates prepared by Central Statistical Organisation for the year 1999-2000, is estimated at 2.10% per annum.

(b) To increase the production and productivity of various crops and thus growth rate, various steps have been taken by the Government. These include, inter-alia, implementation of centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System area, National Pulse Development Project, Oilseeds Production Programme and Seed Minikit Scheme. Under these programmes/project, 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 demonstration on farmers' holding including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology.