

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3678
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains production during the current fiscal likely to be reduced by 4.7 per cent;
- (b) if so, whether investment in agriculture sector is also expected to decline as per the Economic Survey 2000-01;
- (c) if so, whether Government are considering to go ahead to link growth in agriculture and remove all the restrictions on agriculture related products;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the expected foodgrains production during the current fiscal as compared to previous year and the names of crops whose production are likely to be declined?

Answer

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

(a): The foodgrains production for 1999-2000 is estimated at 208.87 million tonnes as against 199.02 million tonnes for 2000-01. Thus, the foodgrains production is expected to decline by 4.7% during the current agriculture year. However, this is based on advance estimates for 2000-01 and is subject to revision after agriculture year is over. The decline in foodgrains production during 2000-01 is expected mainly due to aberrant weather conditions in certain States like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, etc. Such annual fluctuation in agriculture is not an unusual phenomenon. However, the foodgrains production in India shows a long term upward trend.

(b): According to Economic Survey 2000-01, gross capital formation (investment) in agriculture sector has increased to Rs.18656 crores (quick estimates) in 1999-2000 from Rs.13523 crores in 1993-94. However, share of public investment to the total investment has declined to 25% in 1999-2000 from 33% in 1993-94.

(c)&(d): The Export Import Policy including restrictions on agricultural products is governed principally by the concerns of India's food security, maximizing farm incomes, earning foreign exchange and to augment domestic availability. Review of Export Import Policy of agricultural products is an on-going process and accordingly policy interventions are made as and when considered necessary keeping in view the interests of domestic producers, consumers and industry.

(e): The crop-wise production of foodgrains during 2000-01 (advance estimates) compared to that of 1999-2000 are given as under:-

(Million tonnes)

Crop	2000-01	1999-2000
Rice	86.76	89.48
Wheat	70.01	75.57
Coarse cereals	29.92	30.47
Pulses	12.33	13.35
Total foodgrains	199.02	208.87