

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4995  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001  
FOOD PRODUCTION  
JASWANT SINGH YADAV;TARACHAND BHAGORA

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to `Paryavaran Ko Ho Rahe Nuksan Se Khadhya Utpadan Ghatane Ka Khatra` as mentioned in the report released by the International Food Policy Research Institute; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to check decline in the production of foodgrains in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Several steps have been taken by central and state research and development agencies to check the decline in production of foodgrains in the country. Some of the important efforts include:

- (i) Technology for the reclamation of waterlogged, saline and alkali soils has been developed, validated and demonstrated. It is now being widely adopted by state agencies and affected farmers.
- ii) Water efficient cropping systems and application methods have been developed and the same are being adopted by CADAs and the farmers for efficient use of water resources.
- (iii) Well focussed and targetted development schemes have been launched for watershed development in the rainfed areas, reclamation of alkali soils, control of shifting cultivation and stabilization of sand dunes.
- (iv) Suitable soil amendments and integrated plant nutrition systems have been developed to check the chemical degradation of soils and improving agricultural productivity.
- (v) Studies have also been initiated to study the impact of global climate change, afforestation, and carbon-di-oxide and methane emission on agricultural productivity.