

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:41

ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002

DECLINE IN GDP

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

(a) whether the Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy has expressed apprehensions regarding decline in agricultural production due to the drought during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said decline in the agricultural production is likely to result in the decline of rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this decline?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): In May 2002, the Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy (CMIE) projected a growth of 2.0% in real GDP in agriculture for 2002-03 compared with 5.7% in 2001-02. Taking into account the impact of drought, the CMIE indicated in August 2002 a decline of 2.5% in real GDP in agriculture for 2002-03.

(c)&(d): The CMIE had based its forecast on the basis of weak monsoon till the end of July. However, monsoon revived subsequently and more areas were brought under cultivation. Therefore, the impact of weak monsoon may not be as severe as apprehended earlier. Further, the Government have taken various relief measures like announcement of special Drought Relief Price, in addition to the Minimum Support Price, for kharif crops of 2002-03. Further, the states have been assisted through advance release in August 2002 of the Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund due in November 2002 amounting in all to Rs.1150 crores. Besides, 13.25 Lakh Tonnes of foodgrains free of cost have been made available for generation of relief employment. 30,000 Tonnes of cattle grade feed has also been allocated to the affected States.