

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:84
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2006
UNDP REPORT OF FOOD AVAILABILITY
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Asia Pacific Human Development Report 2006 released recently by United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) indicated that India has become food deficit country as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 30, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. The Asia Pacific Human Development Report 2006 released by UNDP states that 'Four of the ten larger low to middle-income economies in the region now have net food deficits. They are Bangladesh, China, Pakistan and the Phillipines. Of these, China had a surplus till as recently as 2003 and the Phillipines up to 1994. The surplus has remained constant in India and also in Sri Lanka, where it is very small. In Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, the surpluses have grown'. The following table shows the net food surpluses and deficits in selected countries of Asia and the Pacific region:-

(c): Does not arise.