

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3595

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006

PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) whether the production of foodgrains during the recent past have declined considerably;
- (b) if so, the details thereof crop-wise alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has launched any special drive to increase the production of foodgrains during the Kharif session of the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) whether the State Governments have been asked to boost production of foodgrains; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): Following table shows the production of foodgrains in the country from 2001-02 to 2005-06 :

Year    Foodgrains Production  
(Million Tonnes)

2001-02	212.85
2002-03	174.77
2003-04	213.19
2004-05	198.36
2005-06#	210.01

#3rd advance estimates

The foodgrains production declined in 2002-03 because several regions/ states were affected by drought. In 2003-04 good rainfall was received during the south-west monsoon and consequently there was a sharp increase in the agricultural production. During 2004-05, monsoon rainfall was deficient by 13% causing decrease in foodgrains production. In 2005-06, normal monsoon rainfall helped in increasing the foodgrains production. The crop-wise details are given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d) : For increasing the production of cereals, the Integrated Cereal Development Programme for cropping system based areas (Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals) which has been subsumed under Macro Management Programme since 04.10.2000 is implemented in different states of the country. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided for demonstration on improved package of practices including Integrated Pest Management (IPM), distribution of quality seeds for improved varieties/ hybrids, farm implements and water saving devices like sprinkler irrigation system. Besides, frontier crop production and protection technologies and newly released promising varieties and hybrids are also popularized through front line demonstrations at farmers` fields under directly funded component of Macro Management Programme. In order to increase the production and productivity of pulses, a centrally sponsored scheme `Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize` (ISOPOM) is implemented since 01.04.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for production of breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed and minikits, infrastructure development and integrated pest management.

(e) & (f): The Central Government interacts with the States and Union Territories on a regular and institutionalized basis to assess their requirements and support them under various schemes/ programmes. Zonal Inputs Conferences and National Conferences on Agriculture prior to the commencement of Kharif and Rabi seasons are also organized for this purpose. The Union Ministry of Agriculture has asked the State Governments to boost the production of foodgrains by way of area expansion and/ or increasing productivity. The crop production strategy has been discussed with State Governments during the National Conference on Agriculture Campaign for Kharif held in February 2006 at New Delhi.

