

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3700  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004  
RECOGNITION OF MULTI DIMENSIONAL NATURE OF AGRICULTURE  
Reddy Shri S.P.Y.

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

(a) the reaction of the Government to the comments recently made by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan regarding recognition of the multi dimensional nature of Indian Agriculture in context of problem of income, jobs, export, earnings and food security: and

(b) the steps to be taken to boost agriculture in order to provide the allowed growth in the economy.

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) and (b) According to Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, his statements are based on the priority set out for the agriculture sector, as reflected in the Common Minimum Programme as well as in the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister for 2004-05. In order to boost agricultural growth and ensure generation of higher income and more employment opportunities, the Government have identified the following areas for focused and priority attention.

Doubling Rural Credit in three years, easing the burden of debt and high interest rate;

Dry Land Farming, promotion of Horticulture production and Water Management;

Creation of additional irrigation facilities;

Marketing support to farmer`s produce for ensuring fair and remunerative prices;

Assistance to the farmers under various agricultural and horticultural production programmes;

Insurance of crops against production loss due to natural calamities.