

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1738

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007

PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY OF CASH CROPS

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

- (a) the production and productivity of various cash crops including coconut recorded in the country in comparison to other developing countries during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the reasons for low productivity of these crops in the country;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the production, productivity and marketing of cash crops in the country; crop-wise and
- (e) the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a): The State-wise production and productivity of major cash crops namely Groundnut, Rapeseed & Mustard, Soyabean, Total Oilseeds, Sugarcane, Cotton, Jute & Mesta and Coconut for the years 2003-04 to 2005-06 are given in Annexure-I. The production and productivity of these crops in selected developing countries during 2001 to 2003 are given in Annexure-II.

(b) to (d): The productivity of most of these crops is low because generally these are grown in the rainfed conditions. Lack of high yielding varieties, low seed replacement rate, vulnerability to pest and diseases and climatic aberrations also contribute to the low yields. The steps taken by the Government to increase the production, productivity and marketing of cash crops in the country are given below:

A Centrally Sponsored Integrated scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize is under implementation with effect from 01.04.2004 for increasing production and productivity of groundnut in 14 States of the Country. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, distribution of seed minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, integrated pest management, weedicides, distribution of sprinkler sets, farmers training for increasing production and productivity of oilseeds.

Coconut Development Board is implementing programmes relating to production and distribution of quality planting material, expansion of area, integrated farming in the country for increasing production and productivity of coconut.

In the jute sector a jute technology mission pertaining to agricultural research and seed development, agronomic practices, harvest and post harvest techniques, primary and secondary processing of raw jute, diversified product development, market development, market and distribution has been adopted by the Government.

For cotton, a scheme is under implementation in 13 states to increase production and productivity of cotton by focusing on increasing availability of cotton seeds, covering more area under hybrids, thrust for evolving, area specific technology, popularization of integrated pest management, increasing efficient use of irrigation water, field demonstrations for transfer of technology to farmers and farmers training.

For increasing production and productivity of sugarcane, seeds of improved varieties are made available to growers, inter cropping of sugarcane has been developed to provide mid-term income to sugarcane growers, trash mulching and drought management technology have been developed for management of moisture stress, bioagents have been mass multiplied and released for biocontrol of woolly aphid.

(e): The state-wise funds allocated for improving the production and productivity of major crops (except sugarcane for which there is no separate state-wise allocation of funds) are given in Annexure-III.