

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:102

ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007

FOODGRAINS PRODUCTION

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the foodgrains production is declining in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 102 DUE FOR REPLY ON 20TH AUGUST, 2007.

(a) & (b): No, Sir. The foodgrains production estimated at 216.13 million tonnes during 2006-07 as per the 4th advance estimates released on 19.07.2007, is the highest production level achieved so far. The earlier peak foodgrains production levels were 213.19 million tonnes in 2003-04 and 212.85 million tonnes in 2001-02. The foodgrains production declined in 2002-03 as it was a drought year. In 2004-05, the monsoon rainfall was 13% less than its long period average which affected the production of wheat and rice. In 2005-06 there was abnormal rise in temperature in February and March which affected the production of wheat in particular and thereby the production of foodgrains.

(c): To increase cereals production, Centrally Sponsored Schemes Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals are in place from October 2000. Under the schemes, assistance is provided on 90:10 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments for propagation of improved/hybrid production technology, pest management, farm implements, installation of sprinkler irrigation system, varietal replacement and production of certified seeds. Likewise, to increase the production of pulses, Centrally Sponsored Scheme `Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize` (ISOPOM) is in place since 01.04.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments.

The Government of India has recently approved two schemes for increasing foodgrains production and improving the agricultural growth in the country. These are

- (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM), and
- (ii) Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACAS).