

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3814  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008  
WTO AGREEMENT ON INDIAN FARMERS  
Paswan Shri Ram Vilas

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

- (a) whether the Indian farmers are reeling under economic recession after the World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreement;
- (b) if so, whether Indian farmers are not getting even remunerative prices of their produce after the WTO agreement;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The growth rate of agricultural GDP was below targeted level during the IX and X plan periods. The wholesale prices of a number of agricultural commodities on the basis of average of weeks in a year have by and large shown an increasing trend since 1994-95. The Minimum Support Prices of major crops have recently shown an increasing trend.

(c) & (d): Government of India has not conducted any survey on the specific issue of remunerative prices for farmers after the WTO agreement. However, a study by IIM, Ahmedabad on the impact of WTO agreement on Agriculture was commissioned by Government. The report submitted by IIM, Ahmedabad in 1999 for the study inter-alia, observes that the ex-post-gains accruing to Indian agriculture so far seem to be very little since developed countries have used various escape routes in the WTO agreements to minimize their reform commitments and India will have to concentrate on non-price factors to improve welfare in the agricultural sector.