

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1421
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009
DECLINE IN AGRICULTURAL GROWTH
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is decline in the growth rate and production of foodgrains and pulses in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there has also been decline in the central allocation to Agriculture sector compared to other departments;
- (d) if so, the steps taken to overcome the present crisis in the farm sector and the priority areas identified so as to ensure food security; and
- (e) details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): There is increase in the growth rate of production of food grains and pulses in the country. The production and growth of food grains and pulses during 2003-04 to 2007-08 are given below:

(in million tonnes)

Year	Food grains (excluding pulses)	Percentage growth over previous year	Pulses	Percentage growth over previous year	Total Food grains	Percentage growth over previous year
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2003-04	198.28	14.91	213.19			
2004-05	185.23	-6.58	13.13	-11.94	198.36	-6.96
2005-06	195.20	5.38	13.40	2.06	208.60	5.16
2006-07	203.08	4.04	14.20	5.97	217.28	4.16
2007-08	216.02	6.37	14.76	3.94	230.78	6.21

(c): There was increase in central allocation to agriculture sector during 2008-09, but allocation during 2009-10 has declined in compared to other departments. Central plan outlay for the year 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 for the Ministry of Agriculture and other Departments are given below:

Name of the Department	Rs. crore					
	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	Central Plan Outlay	% of total Outplay	Central Plan Outlay	% of total Outplay	Central Plan Outlay	% of total Outplay

Ministry of 8050 2.52 9660 2.57 10060 2.25
Agriculture

Other 311942 97.48 365825 97.43 437861 97.75
Departments

Total 319992 100.00 375485 100.00 447921 100.00

Source: Expenditure Budget Volume:1

(d) & (e): A new State Plan scheme of Additional Central Assistance for Agriculture & Allied Sectors namely Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has been launched during 2007-08 to achieve 4 % agricultural growth during 11th Five Year Plan. The strategy to achieve 4 % agricultural growth would lay emphasis on the following:

Accelerating the production and productivity of major food crops on regionally differentiated basis with thrust on pulses and oilseed sector.

Development of rainfed and dry land areas through farming, livelihood systems and better watershed management.

Revamp of extension system to improve delivery mechanism at the grass root level.

Focus on farmers' welfare through risk mitigation, reduction of rural distress and better social security system.

Greater role for the Panchayat Raj Institutions.

Modernise markets.

Improve efficiency of investment and rationalise subsidy.

Further, A Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)" has been launched in 312 identified districts of 17 States from Rabi 2007-08 with an aim to increase the additional production of 20 million tonnes of foodgrains, comprising of 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by the end of Eleventh Plan (2011-12).