

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:162  
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010  
R & D IN AGRICULTURE  
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the share of agriculture to the country's GDP has declined over the successive Five Year Plans;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the lack of Agricultural Research and Development Programmes is one of the reasons for such decline; and
- (d) if so, the proposed steps to be taken up by the Government to make R & D more effective for agriculture?

**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): Yes Madam. The share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors has declined over the successive Five Year Plans. The average percentage share declined from 54.54 percent in the first plan to 20.26 percent in the tenth plan at constant prices (1999-2000 prices). During the first two years of eleventh plan the percentage share shows a declining trend.

The reason for decline in the share of Agriculture and Allied sector in GDP is due to the structural transformation of the economy and is mainly attributed to faster growth of mining and quarrying, electricity, gas and water supply, Financing, insurance, real estate and business services.

(c)&(d): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) carried out research on various aspects of Agriculture through All-India Coordination Research Project in State Agricultural Universities and its own ICAR institutes. A large number of field level demonstrations on farmers' fields are conducted to demonstrate the technologies at grass root level.

ICAR has a network of 567 Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in the country. The KVKs' aim at assessment, refinement and demonstration of the agricultural technology/products, besides conducting training of farmers and extension personnel. "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" was launched during 2005-06 and aims at making the extension system farmer-driven and farmer-accountable by way of new institutional arrangement in the form of Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA). ATMA has active participation of farmers, farmer groups, NGOs, KVK, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and other stakeholders operating at the district level and below. Over 90 lakh farmers have been benefited under the scheme since its implementation.