

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010
CONTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR TO ECONOMY
Shekhar Shri Neeraj

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of people dependent on agriculture for livelihood has not gone down despite a decline in the contribution of the agriculture sector to the GDP;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether gross fixed capital formation in agriculture has also registered a decline over the years;
- (d) if so, reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to address the various issues relating to the agrarian crisis in the country and to make agriculture a vital and vibrant component of the country's economy?

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): As per Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organization, the number of persons per 1000 usually employed in primary sector in rural areas has reduced. This is given below:

NSSO Round	Period	Male	Female
62nd	July 2005-June 2006	652	813
61st	July 2004-June 2005	665	833
60th	January-June 2004	659	841
59th	January-December 2003	708	852
58th	July-December 2002	688	849

Share of Agriculture and Allied Activities in the total GDP at 2004-05 prices has declined from 18.9 percent in 2004-05 to 15.7 percent in 2008-09.

(c) & (d): No, Madam. Gross fixed capital formation in Agriculture and allied activities has registered an increase from Rs.76986 crore in 2004-05 to Rs.135702 crore in 2008-09 at constant(2004-05) prices.

(e): A new Scheme to provide 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 lays 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 rain fed 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.
- # Modernize markets.
- # Improve efficiency of investment rationalize subsidy.

Another, 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).

