

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2013
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010
DECREASE IN PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been decline in agricultural production due to decrease in public investment in agriculture during the last decade and rural unemployment has also increased;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of steps being taken to increase growth rate of agriculture sector?

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): The public investment in Agriculture and Allied Sector has increased from Rs.16183 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 24452 crore in 2008-09 at 2004-05 prices. The food grains production has increased from 209.8 million tonnes in 1999-2000 to 234.47 million tonnes in 2008-09. Also, the production of pulses and oilseeds has increased from 13.41 and 20.71 million tonnes in 1999-2000 to 14.57 and 27.72 million tonnes in 2008-09 respectively.

Rural unemployment has increased over the last 10 years. Unemployment rates (number of persons unemployed per 1000 persons) in the labour force for different rounds are as under:

Round Male Female

Usual status

62 (Jul-2005 to June 2006) 25 22

61 (Jul 2004 to June 2005) 21 31

60 (Jan. 2004 to June 2004) 24 22

59 (Jan.2003 to June 2003) 19 10

58 (Jul 2002 to Dec. 2002) 18 10

57 (Jul 2001 to June 2002) 14 20

56 (Jul2000 to June 2001) 16 6

55 (Jul 1999to June 2000) 21 15

54 (Jan. 1998 to June 1998) 24 20

53 (Jan. 1997 to Dec. 1997) 16 9

(c): A Plan scheme of Central Assistance for Agriculture Sector 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 season of 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).