

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:443
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010
FOOD SHORTAGE
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a general concern about the food security situation in the country over the next decade;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to ensure food security in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.443 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 27.04.2010 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (e) Government is concerned about the food security situation in the country in view of the deceleration of growth in foodgrains production and increasing demand from growing population. The decadal percentage increase in foodgrains production from 1966-67 to 1976-77 was nearly 50% which subsequently decelerated to 8.94% during 1996-97 to 2006-07.

Studies by National Centre for Agricultural Policy & Research (NCAP), point to an estimated demand of about 280 million tons of total foodgrains in 2020, indicating the need for achieving higher growth rates in Agriculture.

Government launched the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in 2007-08 for achieving 4% agriculture growth rate in Agriculture and Allied sectors in the 11th Five Year Plan period. National Food Security Mission (NFSM) was also launched in 2007-08 to increase production by 20 million tons of rice, wheat and pulses by the end of the eleventh Five Year Plan.

NFSM Pulses has been strengthened recently with merger of pulses component from the Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM). Accelerated Pulses Production Programme has been launched in 2010. Two new initiatives of – "Organizing 60,000 villages of pulses and oilseeds" and "Green Revolution of Eastern India" have also been launched in April, 2010 for promotion of pulses, oilseeds and for tapping the food grain production potential of Eastern Indian States.