

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1187  
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010  
PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE  
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is encouraging the States to increase the public investment in agriculture and allied sectors by allowing flexibility for spending on need-based projects in the Eleventh Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**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. Government has launched several schemes to increase investments in agricultural sector and for accelerating agricultural growth. Some of the major schemes are:-

Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), the biggest scheme in the agriculture sector presently, aims at incentivising states to increase outlays for agriculture and allied sectors so as to significantly contribute to the target of 4 percent growth in the Eleventh Plan. An outlay of Rs. 25,000 crore for the Eleventh Five Year Plan has been earmarked for RKVY. It is an entirely grant based programme. RKVY provides considerable flexibility to state governments, and incentivises them to spend more on agriculture on the basis of district and state agriculture plans prepared with the participation of the local people. State and district plans under RKVY are to be prepared based on the resources available under all state and central schemes. RKVY funds provide substantial scaling up for specific programmes in the agricultural sector. The scheme is also being used to fill gaps under other schemes/programmes to synergise investments to raise the growth rate of agriculture. The scheme provides complete flexibility to states to choose what is best suited to them for generating growth so as to enable the country to achieve four per cent growth in the agriculture and allied sector during the Eleventh Plan.

# The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has helped to widen the food basket of the country with significant contributions coming from the NFSM districts. Productivity gains of 25% and more have been recorded in many districts.

# The National Horticulture Mission was launched in 2005-06 for the holistic development of this sector in the country. The horticultural sector covers a wide spectrum of crops, including fruits, vegetables, spices, flowers, medicinal and aromatic plants, mushrooms, and plantation crops like cashew, cocoa, and coconut.

# The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the country for increasing the area, production, and yield of these crops since 2004-05.

Special Features of ISOPOM:

- (i) Flexibility provided to states to utilise funds for the scheme or crop of their choice.
- (ii) Annual action plans to be formulated by the state governments for the consideration and approval of the Government of India.
- (iii) Flexibility provided to the states for introducing innovative measures or any special component to the extent of 10 per cent of financial allocation.
- (iv) Involvement of the private sector by the state governments in the implementation of the programme with a financial cap of 15 per cent.
- (v) Flexibility for inter-component diversion of funds of up to 20 per cent for non-seed components only.
- (vi) Diversion of funds from seed components to non- seed components with the prior approval of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

State-wise allocation/releases for the above mentioned schemes are at annexure I.

(c): The question does not arise.