

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5328
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
PERFORMANCE OF AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether despite various ongoing schemes for promotion of agriculture in the country, more than 30 per cent of the farmers are living below poverty line;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has made any study to assess the performance of each of these schemes during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the outcome of such study;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to reform such schemes;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the steps taken so far by the Government in this direction?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a): At present about 21.8 per cent population in the country are living below the poverty line (mixed reference period).
- (b) to (e): Performance of schemes is reviewed by the Department as well as Planning Commission every year by way of 'Half Yearly Review' of Plan Schemes. Performance of schemes has also been reviewed by the Planning Commission in Mid-Term Appraisal of the agricultural schemes of the 11th Plan and opined that, it is matter of satisfaction that agricultural growth rate has accelerated compared to the earlier period. To address area specific issues in agricultural production, Government introduces new schemes or modify the existing scheme(s) based on field experiences, for example, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a National Mission on Micro Irrigation in 2010-11 and nine sub-schemes under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana this year. Further, allocation of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has increased considerably from Rs.10105.67 crore in 2008-09 to Rs.17122.87 crore in 2011-12 facilitating more investment in agriculture covering a large number of crops and wider range of activities to supplement the efforts of the farmers to increase agricultural production and thereby income of the farmers.