

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:101  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011  
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN NORTH EASTERN STATES  
Deka Shri Ramen

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

- (a) the details of the various Central schemes being implemented to boost the agricultural and horticultural production in each of the North Eastern State;
- (b) whether these schemes were reviewed recently;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the constraints faced by the farmers of these States; and
- (e) the special incentives provided/proposed to be provided to the farmers in these States to increase agricultural production?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 101 DUE FOR REPLY ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2011.

(a): In order to boost the agriculture and horticulture production following major programmes/schemes are being implemented in the respective North Eastern States:

Major Schemes      North Eastern States

Horticulture Mission for North East Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland,  
and Himalayan States      Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh,  
Sikkim

National Bamboo Mission      Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland,  
Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh,  
Sikkim

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana      Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland,  
Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh,  
Sikkim

Macro Management of Agriculture      Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland,  
Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh,  
Sikkim

Technology Mission on Cotton      Tripura

Jute Technology Mission      Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Nagaland

National Food Security Mission      Assam, Tripura

(b) & (c): Apart from the regular review of the schemes in biannual National and Zonal conferences at the beginning of Kharif and Rabi season, a special conference on agriculture in north eastern states –"Agriculture: strategy, policy and practices for North East" was organised in the month of October 2010 at Guwahati, Assam. The state-wise priorities were firmed up in the conference for development of Agriculture in the states.

(d): The main constraints faced by the farmers of North Eastern region include rainfed agriculture, Jhum cultivation, undulating terrain, small size of land holding, low credit and marketing facilities, low consumption of fertilisers, poor connectivity in rural areas, low farm mechanisation, lack of proper post harvest management etc.

(e): Some of the special incentives provided to farmers of the North Eastern Region are given as under:

i. Nearly 10% of the total budget which is non-lapsable, is allocated to the north eastern states under all the schemes of the Department.

ii. North Eastern Council also provides separate funds for the development of agriculture and allied sectors in north eastern region especially for integrated agriculture development; horticulture/ floriculture and cultivation and propagation of spices and other high value medicinal plants, establishment of seed farms, apiculture, establishment of tissue culture laboratories, promotion of coffee, rubber plantations etc.

iii. Programmes like National Bamboo Mission, Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States are primarily focused to benefit the farmers of the north eastern region.

iv. Increased subsidy of 33.33% is provided for creation of marketing infrastructure against 25% subsidy admissible in other areas. Smaller godowns with storage capacity of 50 MT are allowed in north eastern region against the norm of minimum 100 MT storage capacity for other areas under Grameen Bhandaran Yojana. Under Integrated Post Harvest management, 55% subsidy is provided for hilly areas for establishment of cooling and storage units against 40% subsidy in general areas.

v. Institutional strengthening for human resource development in agriculture sector was ensured by establishment of Central Agriculture University at Imphal in Manipur and Central Institute of Horticulture at Medziphema, Nagaland. A Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute (FMTTI) has been established at Biswanath Chariali in Sonitpur district of Assam, to cater to the needs of human resource development in the field of agricultural mechanization and also to assess the quality and performance characteristics of different agricultural implements and machines in the region.