

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3163

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any policy regarding sustainable development of agriculture sector in comparison to other important sectors of the economy like industry to meet the challenges of food security and unpredictable weather pattern;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the interests of the agriculture sector?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Sustainability of agriculture sector has been a major focus of India's planned development effort. Emphasis of National Policy for Farmers, 2007 is on making farming activity more viable and improving economic condition of farmers on sustainable basis. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture seeks to transform Indian agriculture into a climate resilient production system through suitable adaptation and mitigation measures. Eleventh Five Year Plan identified specific factors that would determine efficient, sustainable and inclusive growth in agriculture. These comprise, inter-alia, increase in public investment, research & extension, effective use of improved technology, efficient & sustainable use of soil, water & natural resource base, balanced fertilizer use, location specific farming systems with proper mix of crops & livestock, watershed development, afforestation, etc. Also, it calls for action on environmental front to counter adverse impact of climate change due to global warming. Accordingly, relevant ministries are addressing various issues and investing in appropriate programmes/schemes e.g., Ministry of Agriculture administers Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Micro-irrigation, National Project on Management of Soil health & Fertility etc., which, inter-alia, aim at sustainable agriculture development, ensure food security and safeguard interest of agriculture sector.