

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3207
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011
AGRICULTURE BUDGET
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to formulate an independent budget for agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the growth rate of the agriculture sector and to provide the status of industry to agriculture to attract investment in the sector; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government on formulating an independent agriculture budget and providing status of industry to this sector?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Doesn't arise.

(c) & (d): No such proposal is under consideration to accord industry status to agriculture sector. To step up investment in this sector, two major schemes, namely, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana with an outlay of Rs.25000 crore and National Food Security Mission with an outlay of Rs. 4883 crore have been launched during the Eleventh Plan.

There are vast inter-sectoral linkages in agriculture, dimensions of which cut across various Ministries of Central Government. Subjects/issues related to agriculture and allied sector may not be placed under anyone Ministry. Agriculture is in State List and State Governments are entrusted with implementation of policies and programmes for agricultural development. Central Government supplements their efforts through appropriate policy measures. General Budget takes a holistic view of requirements of agriculture sector across various Ministries as also State Governments and provides appropriate sums of money in this regard. A separate budget for agriculture may be neither necessary nor feasible.

As against 2.5% growth rate achieved during the Tenth Five Year Plan in agriculture and allied sector, the target envisaged during Eleventh Plan is 4%.