

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:60

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012

FOODGRAIN PRODUCTIVITY

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any assessment in respect of foodgrain productivity in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the reasons for lesser production have been identified in the States recording less than the average production in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to increase foodgrain production?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Agriculture has a well established system of regular assessment of area, production and yield of major agricultural crops in the country on the basis of reports received from State Agricultural Statistics Authorities (SASAs). For assessment of production of different crops, the States Governments use area estimates on the basis of field enumeration in a sample of 20% Villages and Yield estimates compiled from required number of crop cutting experiments.

The reasons for variation in productivity of different agricultural crops including foodgrains vary from State to State. Besides variation in the natural soil fertility, the major reasons for low productivity of foodgrains include uneven distribution of rainfall, dependence on monsoon, small & fragmented land holdings, Improper nutrient & pest management, low use of good quality seeds, lack of adequate agricultural machinery and low adoption of improved package of practices, etc.

(d): In order to increase production and productivity of foodgrains in the country, a number of Crop Development Schemes and Programmes, namely: National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Integrated Cereals Development Programme for Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals under Macro Management of Agriculture and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture through State Governments. In addition to above schemes, during 2010-11, two new programmes viz. bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India and Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses and Oilseeds Villages in Rainfed Areas have been initiated under RKVY. National Food Security Mission has been strengthened from 1.4.2010 with the merger of pulses component of ISOPOM and inclusion of two new potential States namely, Assam and Jharkhand for pulses production. A new programme 'Accelerated Pulse Production Programme (A3P)' in the form of block demonstrations has also been started to cover 1000 units of 1000 hectares each of five pulses crops in 16 pulses growing States of the country.

To achieve higher agricultural productivity, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also conducting basic and strategic research related to crop improvement, production and protection technologies in these crops towards profitable cropping systems suitable to different situations including development of location specific varieties and technologies as per the agro-ecological zones, development of varieties/hybrids and related production and protection technologies suitable for non-traditional areas and seasons. As a result of these initiatives, improved varieties/hybrids of crops have been developed with good adaptability to different agro-ecological zones with specific traits. Promotion and adoption of technologies are ensured through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs).