## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3072 ANSWERED ON:24.04.2012 AGRICULTURAL GROWTH RATE

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

- (a) the annual growth rate fixed and achieved in the agriculture sector during the 11th Five Year Plan alongwith the percentage of agricultural growth registered during the above period;
- (b) whether the growth rate of agriculture is lagging behind the targets fixed during the said period and is also far behind that of China and Pakistan in terms of agricultural development;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether a higher growth rate target has been fixed for the 12th Five Year Plan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action plan formulated/being formulated to attain higher agricultural growth in the country including backward and tribal areas of Maharashtra?

## **Answer**

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

(a) to (c): As against the targeted Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 4% in the 11th Plan period (2007-08 to 2011-12) Agriculture and Allied Sectors has witnessed an average annual growth rate of 3.3% during the same period at 2004-05 prices. Agriculture and Allied Sectors registered a growth rate of 5.8% in 2007-08, 0.1% in 2008-09, 1.0% in 2009-10 and 7.0% in 2010-11 as per the quick estimates released by CSO on 31st January, 2012. Further, as per the advance estimates released by CSO on 7th February, 2012 Agriculture and Allied Sectors is estimated to grow at 2.5% in 2011-12 at 2004-05 prices.

The growth rate in GDP of agriculture and allied sectors suffered a setback due to severe drought in most parts of the country during 2009-10 and drought/deficient rainfall in some States, namely, Bihar, Jharkhand, East U.P. and West Bengal in 2010-11.

The Agriculture GDP growth rates in different countries vary on account of various factors such as comparative prices, agro climatic conditions, agricultural land holdings ownership and management system etc.

(d) & (e): The Approach Paper to the 12th Five Year Plan has projected that agriculture Sector has to grow at 4% to be consistent with Growth Rate of 9% for the economy as a whole.

During the 12th Five Year Plan, focus will be on sustaining higher agricultural growth in the country through effective transfer of latest crop production technologies to farmers under various crop development schemes being presently implemented. Further, Government of India formulates action plan for the State as a whole including Maharashtra State. Area wise action plans are made further by the State Department of Agriculture as per the local needs/requirements.