

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:800

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Yadav Shri Dinesh Chandra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any target for agricultural production in the country during 2012-13;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, produce-wise;
- (c) whether more than 40 per cent of the agricultural land is under irrigation in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the production rate of irrigated land is better than the production rate in rainfed areas; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. To enhance agricultural production and productivity of foodgrains and Commercial Crops in the country, Government of India fixed crop production targets for the year 2012-13, in respect of foodgrains, sugarcane, cotton & oilseeds etc. The crop-wise/ Season-wise details are given at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): Around 45 percent of the agricultural land is under irrigated condition in the country. State-wise percent coverage of irrigated area under principal crops during the year 2008-09 is given at Annexure-II.

(e) & (f): The production rate (kg/ha) of the principal crops is comparatively higher in irrigated land than the rainfed land. This is primarily because of assured supply of water during the most critical stage of the Crops in the irrigated land, which leads to optimum realization of yield potential. However, in case of rainfed areas, the uneven distribution of rainfall leads to moisture stress during the important physiological phases of the crops. Consequently, optimum yield potential of the crops is not realized in the rainfed conditions. Further, other agricultural inputs such as high yielding varieties and fertilizers are also responsive in case of irrigated land due to assured and timely supply of water. Therefore, production in irrigated land is better than the rainfed areas.