

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:866
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
CROP DIVERSIFICATION
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has prepared a comprehensive agricultural plan to push crop diversification for improvement in the agricultural produces in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various schemes, viz., National Food Security Mission, including Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P); Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), including its sub-schemes, namely, Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP), Accelerated Fodder Development Programme (AFDP), Special Programme on Oil Palm Area Expansion (OPAE), Vegetable Clusters; National Horticulture Mission, Technology Mission on Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC), Jute Technology Mission (JTM) etc, aim at promotion of crops in ecologies suitable for their cultivation. BGREI has specifically been designed to develop rice based cropping system to enhance the rice productivity in Eastern Region so as to reduce the pressure of paddy production in North-western States, where paddy-wheat cultivation has resulted in depletion of ground water and deterioration of soil health.

(c): These efforts have paid good dividends by way of enhanced production of food grains in the XI Plan from 217.28 million tonnes in 2006-07 to 257.44 million tonnes in 2011-12 (4th Advance Estimates). The share of the Eastern Region in the total rice production in the country has also increased and in 2011-12, 53% of total rice production has been contributed by the Eastern States. The increase in food grain production has reduced import burden considerably in case of pulses particularly. Similarly in other Agricultural Commodities, production of horticultural crops has increased from 191.81 million tonnes in 2006-07 to 250.63 million tonnes in 2011-12. Production of total oilseeds has increased from 24.29 million tonnes to 30.02 million tonnes, production of cotton from 22.63 million bales to 35.20 million bales and production of jute & Mesta from 11.27 million bales to 11.57 million bales from 2006-07 to 2011-12.