

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:307  
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013  
SOWN AREA OF FOODGRAINS  
Sampath Shri Anirudhan;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the area under cultivation of foodgrains has witnessed a declining trend in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/yearwise;
- (c) whether some States in the country are lagging behind in the production of foodgrains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for a balanced growth in the production and productivity of foodgrains in different parts of the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 307 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19TH MARCH, 2013.

(a) to (d): State-wise details of area coverage under foodgrains during the last three years and the current year are given in Annexure. It may be observed that total area under foodgrains in the country increased from 1213.34 lakh hectares in 2009-10 to 1266.71 lakh hectares in 2010-11 and then declined to 1247.55 lakh hectares and 1199.22 lakh hectares in 2011-12 and 2012-13 (2nd Advance Estimates) respectively.

Productivity of foodgrains in some States is lower on account of variation in soil fertility, 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, low adoption of improved package of practices, etc.

(e): For balanced growth in production and productivity of foodgrains in different parts of the country, Government is implementing 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). In addition, 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 in 2010-11. Further, a new programme "Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P)" in the form of block demonstrations has also been started in 16 pulses growing States of the country.

Further, to achieve higher agricultural productivity, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting basic and strategic research relating to crop improvement, production and protection technologies suitable to different situations including development of location-specific varieties, technologies and varieties/hybrids.