

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5682
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
REQUIREMENT OF FOOD
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make advance assessment about the probable requirements and supply of various agricultural commodities/crops/ fruits/ vegetables so that excess agricultural production and acute shortage may be avoided;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to cater to the rising food requirements of the increasing population of the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The assessment about the likely requirements and supply of various agricultural commodities/crops/ fruits/vegetables etc. is done as a part of the Five Year Plan formulation exercise. The Planning Commission had set up Working Groups and Steering Committees on various subjects including one on Crop Husbandry, Demand and Supply Projections, Agricultural Inputs and Agricultural Statistics for the 12th Five Year Plan. Based on the recommendation of the Working Groups and Steering Committees the 12th Plan Document has been prepared which inter alia, gives an assessment of the likely demand and supply of various agricultural commodities by the terminal year of the 12th Plan (i.e. 2016-17).

(c): In order to cater to the rising food requirements of the increasing population of the country, Government has been implementing several crop development schemes/programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) under RKVY, etc. Under these schemes, funds are provided to States for implementation of State specific agricultural strategies including incentives to farmers for production/use of quality seeds, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), farm mechanization etc. Besides, Frontline Demonstrations are also organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/State Agriculture Universities on the farmers' fields to popularize frontier technologies among farmers. Further, to incentivize the farmers and ensure remunerative price for the produce, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for the agricultural commodities have also been increased from time to time.