

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3840
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014
STRENGTHENING OF KVKs
Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is consistently producing 250 million tonnes of foodgrains, 100 million tonnes of rice, 90 million tonnes of wheat, 35 million bales of cotton and more than 18 million tonnes of pulses at present;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the growth in production is facilitated mainly by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) which are spread across the country;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is considering to expand the area of activities of KVKs as well as to open more KVKs in many parts of the country and has sought Rs.5,700 crore to strengthen KVKs during the 12th Five Year Plan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE & FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b): As indicated in the table below, during the last five years, i.e., 2008-09 to 2012-13, production of foodgrains, rice, wheat, pulses and cotton in the country has been generally increasing:-

Crop Production ('000 Tonnes)					
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Rice	99.18	89.09	95.98	105.30	105.24
Wheat	80.68	80.80	86.87	94.88	93.51
Pulses	14.57	14.66	18.24	17.09	18.34
Food - grains	234.47	218.11	244.49	259.29	257.13
Cotton@	22.28	24.02	33.00	35.20	34.22
@ Million bales (of 170 kg each)					

(c) to (e): The growth in Agriculture is a function of many factors of production, including application of various inputs, technologies and best practices. Moreover, a number of programmes and organizations including Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are facilitating the adoption of improved agricultural technologies and practices in farmers' fields.

The new activities envisaged for KVKs during 12th Plan include, identification and documentation of selected farm innovations, technological backstopping to the agricultural programmes and schemes run by public, private and voluntary organizations and provision of farm advisories to farmers using electronic and other media of communication.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has made a proposal for seeking approval of Rs. 5739.56 crore for KVK scheme for continuation, strengthening and establishment of 121 new KVKs in the country during 12th Plan.