

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2946
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009
FAO REPORT ON AGRICULTURE
Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Rathod Shri Ramesh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has found that by 2050 developing countries would need 50% more investments as against the current level in agricultural sector;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has examined the said UN FAO report;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the present level of investment in agriculture sector under 11th Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. In a background paper prepared for the High Level Expert Forum on How to Feed the World in 2050, the FAO estimated that investment in developing countries needs to be increased by about 50% from current levels to support the required expansion in agricultural output to meet projected food demand in 2050.

(c): The government has taken several initiatives for improving agriculture including stepping-up investments in agriculture and rural development significantly.

(d): The investment measured in terms of Gross Capital Formation(GCF) at 1999-2000 prices in the agriculture and allied sector has shown a continuous improvement during the period 2003-2004 to 2007-2008. Gross Capital Formation in Agriculture and allied sector as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (at 1999-2000 prices) from Agriculture and allied sector improved from 11.1 per cent in 2003-2004 to 14.2 per cent in 2007-2008. The 53rd Meeting of National Development Council (NDC) decided to substantially increase investment in the agriculture sector to facilitate achieving targeted rate of growth of more than 4% in the Eleventh Five Year Plan.