

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3888

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Productivity of Foodgrains

Malviya Prof. Chintamani; Mani Shri Jose K.; Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao; Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath; Swami Maharaj Dr. Sakshi; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the productivity of foodgrains has declined in the country during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the reasons therefor;

(b) whether consumption of fertilizers in the country is less than that of the developed countries due to which agricultural production is declining in the country and if so, the details thereof and the initiatives/policy undertaken by the Government to increase the growth rate of foodgrain production in the country;

(c) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised to enhance the productivity of foodgrains and the outcome thereof during the said period, State-wise;

(d) whether the quality of foodgrains produced in the country is substandard and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the quality of foodgrains; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase productivity of foodgrains at par with agriculturally advanced countries in the world?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

श्री अहलुवालिया ( श्री S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(a): As First Advance Estimates are normally released in September, it is too early to have an assessment on the production of foodgrain during 2016-17. Depending on weather and rainfall conditions, soil moisture, temperature, etc. the State-wise productivity of the food grains in the country during the last three years has been fluctuating. However, the details of productivity of the foodgrains during the last three years i.e. 2013-14 to 2015-16 are given in the Annexure-I.

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(b) & (c): The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare and Department of Fertilizers are not maintaining the average intensity of fertilizers use of other countries. However, besides consumption of fertilizers, other factors such as weather and rainfall conditions, soil moisture, temperature, size of land holdings, irrigation facilities, availability of quality seeds, use of farm machinery, agricultural practices etc. also influence the agricultural production. Except for the years of unfavorable rainfall, weather, temperature conditions etc. production of foodgrains in the country has been generally increasing.

Further, to increase production and productivity of agricultural crops on sustainable basis, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Soil Health Card etc.

Under these Schemes/Programmes, funds are provided to States for implementation of State-specific agricultural strategies including incentives to farmers for use of quality seeds, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), farm mechanization, etc. The States are also provided support for creation of agricultural infrastructure for optimal use of water and other natural resources.

State-wise details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the major Crop Development Schemes/Programmes during 2013-14 to 2016-17 are given in Annexures- II to V.

(d): The quality of the food grains produced in the country is not substandard. However, continuous efforts are made to further improve the quality of the produce. Varieties of seeds with better quality parameters have been released in the country and farmers are growing them. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has also implemented Consortia Research Platform on Biofortification to develop nutri-rich varieties in rice, wheat, maize, jowar, etc. for nutritional security.

(e): In order to increase the productivity of foodgrains in the country, crop based institutes along with respective All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) released and notified 300 new improved varieties/ hybrids of foodgrains crops during 2013-16 for different agro-ecologies. These varieties are having tolerance/resistance to abiotic/biotic stresses and also quality attributes. Approximately, 139130 quintals of breeder seed of improved varieties of foodgrains crops was produced during 2013-14 to 2015-16 for sustaining the effective seed chain.

Besides, front line demonstrations were organized to demonstrate the new technologies. Farmers' training programmes, Farmers' fairs, farmers' field days, etc. were also organized for awareness generation among the farmers about the new technologies.