

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1278
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014
DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SECTOR
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage growth achieved by the agricultural sector during the 11th Five Year Plan;
- (b) whether the Planning Commission has suggested measures to be adopted by the agricultural sector in order to improve the declining production of oilseeds;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the measures taken/being taken by the Government to develop agricultural sector, increase agricultural production and promote oilseeds production during the 12th Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a): The Agriculture Sector has achieved on an average 4.1% annual growth in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during XI Five Year Plan as compared to 2.5% during X Plan. During 2012-13 and 2013-14 the growth rate was 1.4% and 4.7% respectively (source: Press Release dated 31st January, 2014; National Accounts Statistics (NAS), 2014 of Central Statistics Office, New Delhi).

(b to d): For the XII Plan a growth target of 4% has been set for the Agriculture Sector. Planning Commission has identified followings as key drivers of growth for the development of the agricultural sector:

viability of farm enterprise and returns to investment that depend on scale, market access, prices and risk;

availability and dissemination of appropriate technologies that depend on quality of research and extent of skill development;

plan expenditure on agriculture and in infrastructure which together with policy must aim to improve functioning of markets and more efficient use of natural resources; and

governance in terms of institutions that make possible better delivery of services like credit, animal health and of quality inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and farm machinery.

To operationalise these strategies, the Government of India has launched a National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) with an outlay of Rs. 3507 crore for XII Plan (2012-13 to 2016-17) to enhance the production of oilseeds to 35.51 million tons by 2016-17 against the production of 29.80 million tons during the terminal year of XI Plan (2011-12). In the year of 2012-13 and 2013-14, the production of oilseeds has been estimated at 30.94 million tons and 32.41 million tons (3rd Advanced Estimates, 2013-14), respectively. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for production of breeder seed, parental lines, certified seeds, distribution of certified seeds and minikits and strengthening of seed infrastructure. To promote Integrated Pest Management equipments like light traps along with chemicals and bio-pesticides is provided. The provision is also made for distribution of gypsum/pyrite/ liming/dolomite, nuclear polyhedrosis virus (NPV), rhizobium / phosphate and Zinc solubilizing bacteria (ZSB) to implement Integrated Nutrient Management. Farm implements, water carrying pipes, seed storage bins, seed treatment drums, block demonstrations on polythene mulch technology, frontline demonstrations, training of farmers/extension workers/input dealers and exposure visits of farmers are also provided under the Mission. The Mission also targets bringing additional area of 1.25 lakh hectare under oil palm and enhance seed collection of Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) from 9 lakh tons to 14 lakh tons by 2016-17.