

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:430
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014
PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS
Patil Shri Kapil Moreshwar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether growing population is putting pressure on agriculture sector to produce more foodgrain;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to accord priority to micro-nutrients rich foodgrains and to increase the agriculture production in proportion to increase in population;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to ensure food security in the country through community participation and ecologically suitable agriculture method?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. However, total food grains production in the country was 259.92, 257.13 and 264.77 million tonnes during 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 (4th Advance Estimates for 2013-14), respectively as against the projected demand of 257.0 million tonnes upto terminal year of 12th Plan (2016-17) as estimated by Working Group of Planning Commission.

(c) & (d): Government of India has been implementing various crop development schemes/programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc, for increasing foodgrains production in the country. A special programme "Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion" (INSIMP) was implemented in the years 2011-12 to 2013-14 to demonstrate

the improved production and post-harvest technologies of micro-nutrient rich millets. It has been subsumed with NFSM from year 2014-15 onwards. Coarse cereals have been included under NFSM from 2014-15.

(e): To sustain the foodgrains production, improved crop production technologies are being demonstrated in cluster approach recommended for different agro- ecologies through active participation and imparting training to farmers under various crop development programmes.

Emphasis is being given on formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) of small and marginal farmers to harness collective strength in adoption of improved technologies, seed production and seed procurement. The crop development programmes are being implemented through active involvement of panchayati raj institutions.