

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4677

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001

INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the share of public and private investment in agriculture during 1999-2000 and 2001-2002 separately;

(b) the reasons attributed to the declining trend in the investment during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken to encourage more investment in this sector so as to achieve atleast 4% growth in agriculture sector during the Tenth Plan period?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b): The estimates of public and private investment in Agriculture including Animal Husbandry, measured in terms of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) have been released by the Central Statistical Organisation for the years up to 1999-2000. These estimates for the two years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as under:

TABLE

Gross Capital Formation (GCF) in Agriculture including Animal Husbandry

(Rs. in Crore)

Year GCF in Agriculture including Animal Husbandry

	Public	Private
1998-99	6573	18293
1999-2000	8515	21059

As seen from the TABLE, there is no decline in the investment in agriculture.

(c): The Government have already taken steps to encourage more investment in agriculture by way of strengthening rural infrastructure in the current year such as provision for additional flow of credit to agricultural sector (Rs. 10,500 Crore), additional funds for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (Rs.2,500Crore) and enhanced allocations for rural electrification (Rs. 750 Crore). Further, schemes like Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) in National Bank foAgriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for completion of various types of ruralInfrastructure projects; Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) to provideadditional central assistance by way of loans to State Governments for early completion of their selected large irrigation and multi-purpose projects; and Watershed Development Project (WDP) in NABARD) for integrated water development in 100 priority districts are being implemented. All these measures will help in increasing investment in agriculture and achieving a higher growth rate in the Tenth Plan period.