

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:173

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006

PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of foodgrains is likely to be higher during 2005-06 as compared to that in the previous year;
- (b) if so, the estimated increase therein;
- (c) the extent of additional area of land in which sowing has been undertaken this year in comparison to the previous year; and
- (d) the area of that land in which sowing could not be undertaken this year too?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b) : As per the 1st Advance Estimates for 2005-06, the kharif foodgrains production is estimated at 105.25 million tonnes which is about 2 million tonnes more than the kharif foodgrains production of 103.32 million tonnes for 2004-05 (4th Advance Estimates). As per the reports received from the states, as on 13.02.2006 the area under rabi foodgrains is higher than last year. Thus there is likely to be increase in foodgrains production this year as compared to last year if weather conditions remain favourable.

(c) & (d) : The area under kharif foodgrains during 2005-06 (1st Advance Estimates) is estimated at 701.20 lakh hectares as compared to 708.44 lakh hectares during 2004-05 (4th Advance Estimates). As per the reports received from the states, as on 13.02.2006 the area under rabi foodgrains this year is 490.34 lakh hectares as against 477.68 lakh hectares last year. Thus, additional area under foodgrains this year is expected to be higher by about 5.42 lakh hectares as compared to last year.