

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:183
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006
GENERATION OF AGRICULTURAL SURPLUS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether agriculture sector has to generate surpluses for financing the economic growth in the country; and
(b) if so, the details regarding the policies being formulated by the Government for achieving the target?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): For economic growth in the country, every sector including Agriculture plays a complementary role. For a sustainable growth in agriculture sector, a number of policies have been formulated. Major thrust of these policies is to broad base capital investment in agriculture and allied sectors. A series of policy initiatives have been taken in vital areas like credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure, horticulture and extension services. This process is being further strengthened through farm mechanization, agri-clinics and agri-business centres and extension services. Other areas for higher investment include micro-irrigation comprising drip and sprinkler irrigation, National Horticulture Mission having end-to- end approach with backward and forward linkages covering research, production, post harvest management, processing and marketing, under one umbrella, in an integrated manner.

A number of capital-intensive schemes in agriculture including allied sectors of forestry, logging and fishing are being implemented with public-private partnership. Some of the major schemes/policy initiatives are as under:-

- ? Gramin Bhandaran Yojana
- ? Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization.
- ? `Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post-Harvest Operations`.
- ? National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.