

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1590
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the northern and western regions have performed remarkably well whereas the eastern and north-eastern regions lagged behind in agricultural development in recent years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to tackle regional disparities in agricultural productivity?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Following table shows the normal (average of 5 years from 1999-2000 to 2003-04) productivity and production of foodgrains and oilseeds in major states of northern, western, eastern and north-eastern regions :

State Productivity Production
 (Kg./hectare) (`000 Tonnes)

Foodgrains

Northern Region		
Punjab	3972	24726.7
Uttar Pradesh	2135	42642.0
Western Region		
Mahrashtra	861	1157.5
Rajasthan	1045	12050.1
Eastern Region		
Bihar	1650	11633.0
West Bengal	2326	15346.7
North-Eastern		
Assam	1443	4032.3
Tripura	2183	554.9

Oilseeds

Northern Region		
Haryana	1369	737.3
Uttar Pradesh	818	1050.5
Western Region		
Gujarat	1016	2875.7
Rajasthan	951	2863.5
Eastern Region		
Orissa	440	133.4
West Bengal	880	519.9
North-Eastern		
Assam	501	154.0
Nagaland	1082	53.4

As may be seen from the above table, in case of foodgrains, the productivities of eastern and north-eastern region states are not lagging behind than that of the northern and western region states. However, in case of oilseeds the trend is mixed one.

(c): The development of appropriate production and protection technology for the farmers for enhancing their productivity, production and income has been the major thrust of the Government. For this, high priority is accorded in all the crop improvement programmes to develop indigenous technology looking into the need and specific problems faced by the farmers in different agro-climatic areas of the country. Besides low cost technology developed for optimum period of planting, seed rate, appropriate plant population, weed control, integrated pest management and inter culturing have been standardized and made available to farmers for adoption.