

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1628
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
INCREASE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding India's current and projected agricultural production for the coming year, commodity-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase agricultural production in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) which of the agri-sectors need special attention to augment their production levels; and
- (e) the steps initiated in this regard so far?

Answer

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

(a) : As per the 2nd advance estimates of production for 2005-06, the production of various crops is shown below :

Year Production
 (Million Tonnes)

Rice	87.86
Wheat	73.06
Coarse Cereals	34.00
Pulses	14.40
Total Foodgrains	209.32
Oilseeds	26.37
Sugarcane	266.88
Cotton #	16.45
Jute & Mesta \$	10.65

Production in Million Bales of 170 kgs. each

\$ Production in Million Bales of 180 kgs. each

The commodity-wise production targets for the coming years will be set at the beginning of the agricultural year (July-June).

(b) to (e): Government is implementing a number of schemes for development of the Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock sectors. The strategies formulated by the Government for making the agriculture sector more vibrant and dynamic so as to increase its production and productivity with resultant increase in the income of farmers include

- (i) enhancing institutional credit flow to the farmers and strengthening of cooperative credit structure;
- (ii) ensuring the timely availability of quality inputs;
- (iii) promoting farmer friendly, demand driven agriculture extension system;
- (iv) accelerating diversification to high value crops including horticulture activities;
- (v) strengthening infrastructure and the supply chain;
- (vi) optimizing the efficient utilization of available water resources through micro irrigation and enhancing the sustainability of dry-land/ rainfed farming system;
- (vii) reforming agricultural markets, and widespread use of post harvest technology; and

(viii) putting in place a broader spectrum of risk management apparatus for farmers.

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

Gramin Bhandaran Yojna

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.

The other steps initiated by ICAR are as under:

1. Development of high yielding varieties and hybrids of crops.
2. Plant protection through seed treatment, insect biosystematics.
3. Breeder seed production, molecular breeding.