

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:719
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
TAPPING OF AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the agricultural potential available in the country and the extent to which it is being tapped, State-wise;
- (b) whether the agricultural potential in Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Assam has not been tapped fully so far;
- (c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tap this potential;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to start another green revolution to tap potential in each State; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): A comparison among different States of India shows that there is potential of agricultural growth to be fully tapped. In food grain production, for example, as per 2003-04 estimates, only five States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal had achieved yield level higher than the National average of 1731 kg. Per hectare. In wheat production, in particular, Punjab is the only State in India that has recorded an average yield (4207 kg. Per hectare during 2003-04) over the World average(2720 kg. Per hectare during 2002).

The States of Bihar, Orissa and Assam are below the national average in the foodgrains production indicating the potentiality to be tapped. The potential in the Eastern States could not be fully harnessed due to problems like acidic soil, heavy rains, frequent floods and drought in some parts of the region. However, West Bengal has achieved a yield level in paddy and foodgrains above the National average.

Steps taken to tap the potential include schemes like the following:

Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and other Cereals based cropping system areas, Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system and Special Jute Development Programme.

Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), is implemented in several States for increasing the yield potential of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize.

(d)&(e): The draft approach paper to Eleventh Five Year Plan has mentioned that there is urgent need to start second Green Revolution.