

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:25
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
RATE OF GROWTH IN WEST BENGAL
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the rate of growth targetted and achieved in agricultural sector in West Bengal during the last three years;
- (b) the target set for the year 2004-2005; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the rate of growth of agricultural production in West Bengal?

Answer

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

- (a): The rate of growth targetted in the Agricultural sector during the last three years was 5.5% against which the achievement has been 5.18%.
- (b): The target set for the year 2004-05 is 6%.
- (c): Higher rate of growth is sought to be achieved through proper implementation of various Centrally Sponsored and State Plan Schemes for accelerating agriculture production, the major thrust being given on crop diversification. The main activities emphasized are distribution of quality seed of High Yielding Varieties and hybrid seeds, front line demonstration, block demonstration, incentive to growers/ organizations for production of quality seeds, demonstration of technologies through demonstration kits and seed kits, soil conservation measures and harvesting of rain water under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA), strengthening the infrastructure for soil testing and application of bio-fertiliser, green manure and soil nutrients thus ensuring good soil health management, demonstration on Integrated Pest Management and application of bio-pesticides and crop diversification with the objective of increasing the production of crops which have ready market in the State.