

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4090

ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010

AGRICULTURAL GROWTH RATE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the agricultural growth rate has been declining for the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to increase the agricultural growth rate;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any review of these measures; and
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): The percentage growth rate achieved by the Agriculture & Allied Sector at constant prices during the last few years is as under:

2006-07 3.7

2007-08 4.7

2008-09 1.6

2009-10 (-)0.2
(Advance Estimate)

(b): State wise percentage growth rate of GDP of Agriculture and Allied Sector during 2006-07 to 2008-09 is at Annexure

(c) to (e): The Government is implementing a number of schemes to increase the agricultural growth in the country.

(1) A New Plan Scheme, namely Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched during 2007-08 to achieve 4 % agricultural growth during 11th Five Year Plan in Agriculture and Allied sector.

(2) Another, Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)" has been launched in 312 identified districts of 17 States from Rabi 2007-08 with the aim of achieving additional production of 20 million tonnes of foodgrains by the end of Eleventh Plan (2011-12).

(3) Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Horticulture Mission" for holistic development of horticulture sector was launched in 2005-06. Improvement in production and productivity, technology promotion, extension, post harvest management and marketing are the major programmes of the Scheme. A mid-term evaluation study conducted by the National Productivity Council in all the NHM states indicates that area under horticulture crops has increased by 12.4 percent. The yield levels have also increased. The scheme has generated employment opportunities and farmers cultivating short duration horticulture crops have derived higher incomes due to yield enhancement.

(4) Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) The Scheme provides the states to choose among various interventions based on the Work Plan finalized in an interactive mode to supplement and complement the States' efforts in the Agriculture Sector. The evaluation of this scheme was conducted by the Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata, NABARD consultancy Services (NABCONS) and Agriculture Finance Corporation Limited (AFCL). The evaluation has brought out positive impact of MMA Scheme in promoting high yielding varieties, encouraging value addition in farm output, increasing farmers' income and assisting employment generation.

