

1	2	3	4
iii.	Flowers		
	(A) Cut Flowers	Rs. 70,000/ha	
	a. Small & Marginal Farmers	50% of the cost @ Rs. 35,000/ha	limited to 2 ha. per beneficiary
	b. Other farmers		33% of the cost @ Rs. 23,100/ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary
	(B) Bulbous Flowers	Rs. 90,000/ha	
	a. Small & Marginal Farmers	50% of the cost @ Rs. 45,000/ha	limited to 2 ha. per beneficiary
	b. Other farmers		33% of the cost @ Rs. 29,700/ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary
	(C) Loose Flowers	Rs. 24,000/ha	
	a. Small & Marginal Farmers	50% of the cost @ Rs. 12,000/ha	limited to 2 ha. per beneficiary
	b. Other farmers		33% of the cost @ Rs. 7,920/ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary
iv.	Spices, Aromatic & Medicinal Plants	Rs. 15,000/ha (average)	75% of cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 11,250/ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary
v.	Plantation crops including coastal horticulture	Rs. 15,000/ha (average)	75% of cost subject to Rs. 11,250/ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary in 3 installments of 50:20:30 subject to survival rate of 75% in second year and 90% in third year.

Steps to revive farm sector

1496. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farm sector in the country is reeling under the impact of global financial meltdown;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to achieve 4 per cent growth in agriculture during the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the concrete steps Government proposes to take to revive the farm sector in the country and to achieve the targeted growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per the estimates made in May, 2009, growth in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost declined from 9 percent during the year 2007-08 to 6.7 percent (revised estimate) in 2008-09. The lower growth in GDP in 2008-09 was spread across most sectors of the economy including agriculture. The decline in growth in GDP in 2008-09 could be attributed to many factors including the agricultural production being influenced by the vagaries of monsoon. Despite vicissitudes of weather, total foodgrain production increased from 230.77 million tonnes in 2007-08 to 233.87 million tonnes in 2008-09 as per the 4th advance estimates.

(c) to (e) The Government has plans to achieve 4% growth in agriculture during the current year. In order to achieve the 4% growth rate, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has taken several steps to facilitate better performance in the agriculture and allied sectors. These include increase in plan outlays, endeavor to increase in overall investment, launching of new projects and programmes during recent years such as Rashtriya Jkrishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM). Substantial allocation has been made under these Schemes and there has been satisfactory performance. Some traditionally foodgrain deficit states have begun contributing their surplus production to the Central Procurement Pool.

There has been quantum jump in production of certified/quality seeds of high yielding varieties during last few years. 250.35 lakh qtls. of certified/quality seeds were produced and made available in 2008-09 as against 194.31 lakh quintals during 2007-08 and 148.10 lakh qtls. during 2006-07. For Kharif 2009, availability of quality seeds is 126.51 lakh qtls. as against the requirement of 110.97 lakh qtls. Thus, there is a surplus of 15.54 lakh qtls.

During the Eleventh Plan period, an area of 14 lakh ha. under micro irrigation has been targeted to be covered with an outlay of Rs. 3400 crore.

Minimum Support Prices of major cereals were increased substantially in the range of 49% to 78% during the last five years.

The total budgetary for the year 2008-2009 was enhanced by more than 80% compared to the budget estimates of 2007-08. It is further proposed to be increased by 11% to Rs. 11915 crores during 2009-10.

Due to a number of steps taken by the Government and farmers' encouraging response thereto, there has been substantial increase in agriculture production. The average growth rate in the agriculture and allied sector has been more than 4% the last 4 years despite decline in growth rate during 2008-09.

Decline in the production of pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane and coarse cereals

1497. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: