

(c) whether CSO also aims at using India Post's online portal system to collect industrial output data; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Price data are collected from selected 1181 villages by the Department of Posts for compilation of the monthly Consumer Price Index (Rural) and data are received through the web portal. Monthly all India provisional indices are based on price data of more than 90 % of the total selected villages.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Short Notice Question No.3, Shri Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala ...*(Interruptions)*... Is he present? ...*(Interruptions)*... He is not present. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Does anybody want to ask supplementary on this?...*(Interruptions)*... Anybody wants to ask...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody ...*(Interruptions)*...

Uniformity in growth of Agriculture Sector among States

3. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken or going to be taken by Central Government for uniformity in growth of agriculture sector within States as there is huge imbalance in agriculture growth among States which need to be addressed urgently to enhance our total agricultural growth and for socio-economic development of our society?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Growth of agriculture sector depends on a number of factors including natural resource endowments of land, soil, water, climate and biodiversity; investment and infrastructural development; and effective and efficient use of various resources.

Agriculture recorded an average rate of growth of 3.4 per cent per year during the Eleventh Plan. During this period, the average rate of growth of agriculture and allied sector in Madhya Pradesh (7.6%), Chhattisgarh (7.6%), Rajasthan (7.4%),

Jharkhand (6%), Karnataka (5.6%), Andhra Pradesh (4.9%), Assam (4.9%), Gujarat (4.8%), Bihar (4.7%) and Odisha (3.9%) was higher than the national average of 3.4 per cent. Other States like Himachal Pradesh (1.1%), Punjab (1.6%), Maharashtra (2.0%), J and K (2.0%), Tamil Nadu (2.2%), Uttarakhand (2.7%), West Bengal (2.8%), Uttar Pradesh (3.3%) and Haryana (3.3%) recorded lower rates of growth than the national average.

The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various programmes such as the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), etc. to address the issue of regional imbalances in growth and productivity of the agriculture sector. Initiatives like Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP) and Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI) have been launched as part of RKVY to address the specific issue of regional imbalance in development. Further, the Department of Land Resources is implementing the Integrated Water Management Programme (IWMP) on a watershed approach.

NFSM aims at reducing the yield gaps between high productivity and low productivity districts by focusing on the districts in which the productivity of wheat and rice is below the State average. Further, districts with potential for area expansion and productivity enhancement have been covered under NFSM Pulses. At present, NFSM is being implemented in 482 districts of 19 States, comprising 142 districts for rice in 15 States; 142 districts for wheat in 9 States and 468 districts for pulses in 16 States. Some of the districts are covered for two or more crops. The Mission interventions consist of a judicious mix of proven technological components covering seeds of improved varieties, soil ameliorants, plant nutrients, farm machines and implements and plant protection measures coupled with capacity building of farmers through use of innovative extension techniques such as Farmers' Field School and Field Demonstrations. Resource conservation technologies such as zero till, seed-cum-fertilizer drill, sprinkler sets and System of Rice Intensification receive special attention under the Mission. In addition, local initiatives are allowed to be undertaken to address location specific problems and implement need-based short and medium term applied and adaptive research projects.

RKVY incentivizes the States to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors by taking into account the agro climatic conditions, natural resource base and technology and integrating livestock, poultry and fisheries more fully while providing more flexibility and autonomy in planning and execution of schemes. RKVY now includes several specific sub-schemes namely 'Bringing Green Revolution to the Eastern Region of India', 'Special Initiative for Pulses and Oilseeds', 'Accelerating Fodder Production', 'Creating Vegetable Clusters', 'Nutri-Cereals', 'Oil Palm Development', Protein Supplements, Rainfed Area Development Programme and the Saffron Mission.