

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the corrective steps being taken in this regard in the Twelfth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Area under Horticulture crops was 16.6 million ha. in 2001-02, which has increased to 22.7 million ha. in 2011-12, thereby registering an increase of about 37% over the base year.

(Source: Indian Horticulture Database 2011 and Third Advance Estimates of Area and Production of Horticulture Crops).

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

Reforms in agriculture sector

†186. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that for the development of the country it is imperative to bring the agriculture sector of the country as well under the scope of reforms;
- (b) if so, the response of Government thereto;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has identified areas of agriculture sector where reforms are required; and
- (d) if so, the details of reforms proposed to be carried out at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) The Eleventh Five Year Plan started in the backdrop of a low annual growth rate in the agriculture sector vis-a-vis the non-farm sector during the Tenth Plan as well as declining profitability. Realizing the need for accelerating agricultural growth to 4% per annum for achieving equitable and inclusive growth, Government initiated a slew of measures and reforms in different areas of this sector. Notable among them are given in Statement (*See below*).

The above initiatives gave the desired results. As per the 4th Advance Estimates for 2011-12, all time record production was witnessed in rice, wheat, sugar cane and cotton. The average annual growth rate achieved in the agriculture and allied

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

sector during Eleventh Plan improved to 3.3% as opposed to 2.5% and 2.4% in the Ninth and Tenth Plan, respectively.

These efforts will continue in the Twelfth Five Year Plan with greater vigour and focus by reorganizing the activities of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation into only 5 missions and 6 programmes.

Statement

*Important initiatives by Government in Agriculture sector during the
Eleventh Five Year Plan*

1. Launching of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Food Security Mission (NFSM) with outlays of Rs.25000 crore and Rs.4882.48 crore, respectively. RKVY, through its flexible structure provided autonomy to States in the process of planning and execution of schemes and also incentivized the States to increase public investment in this sector.
2. Promotion of Horticulture in mission mode through National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North East and Hilly States (HMNEH) for improving farm incomes and livelihood security and enhancing employment generation.
3. Announcement of new sub-schemes under RKVY like Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern Region, Integrated Development of 60,000 pulses villages in rainfed areas, Promotion of Oil Palm, Initiative on Vegetable Clusters, Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion, National Mission for Protein Supplements, Accelerated Fodder Development Programme, Rainfed Area Development Programme, Saffron Mission, and Vidarbha Intensified Irrigation Development Programme.
4. Increasing the availability of agriculture credit to Rs. 4,68,291 crores in 2011-12 while bringing down the interest rates to 4% to farmers who repay in time.
5. Modification and strengthening of the scheme "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms".
6. Implementation of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 benefiting 3.69 crore farmers involving debt waiver and debt relief of Rs.65318.33 crore.

7. Enactment of Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011 to facilitate Cooperative societies function in a democratic, professional, autonomous and economically sound manner.
8. Implementation of Rehabilitation Package of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 suicide prone districts in 4 States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala.
9. Substantial increase in Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops in recent years to make farming more remunerative.
10. Implementation of Terminal Market Complex Scheme in PPP mode.
11. Implementation of Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme.
12. Circulation of Model APMC Act and Model APMC Rules containing important components of market reforms like direct marketing, development of markets by private and cooperative sectors, contract farming etc. to States for adoption. Constitution of a Committee of State Ministers In-charge Agricultural Marketing to accelerate the pace of agricultural market reforms.

PPP for Integrated Agricultural Development Scheme

†187. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to implement a scheme called Public- Private Partnership for Integrated Agricultural Development during Twelfth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether arrangement has been made for an investment of ₹ 5,000 crore from Government sector; and
- (d) if so, the quantum of share in investment from private sector and target for increase in purchasing power of existing small and marginal farmers of the country under this proposal?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.