

**Low allocation to agricultural sector**

3444. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 70 per cent Indian population depend upon agricultural sector where very small fraction of investment of our GDP is allocated to it which is unjustified; and

(b) if so, the details of measures Government proposes to take to strengthen this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR) (a) As per Census 2001, population dependent on agriculture sector (agriculture including allied activities) is 61.7 per cent. Further, as per the latest estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the fraction/share of Agriculture and Allied sectors in the GDP of the country is 13.7 per cent in 2012-13 at 2004-05 prices. The small fraction of Agriculture and Allied sectors in the GDP of the country is on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to a service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development of an economy.

(b) Government has launched several schemes to strengthen this sector such as, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana etc. In addition, Government has substantially improved the availability of farm credit; implemented a massive programme of debt waiver; introduced better crop insurance schemes; increased Minimum Support Price (MSP), improved marketing infrastructure, etc.

**Allocation for drought relief**

3445. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have represented to