

Growth rate in agriculture sector

1621. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth rate of Agriculture in the country has come down to 2.1 per cent in the financial year 2017-18;

(b) if so, the growth rate of Agriculture in the financial years 2015-16 and 2016-17; and

(c) the reasons for low growth rate in the financial year 2017-18?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) As per the Second Advance Estimates of National Income 2017-18 released by the Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on 28th February, 2018 the growth rate of Gross Value Added (GVA) of agriculture and allied sector at constant (2011-12) prices for the year 2017-18 is 3.0 per cent.

The growth rate of agriculture and allied sector for the last three years at 2011-12 prices is given as under:—

(in per cent)

Year	Growth rate
2015-16	0.6
2016-17	6.3
2017-18*	3.0

Note: * As per the Second Advance Estimates of National Income 2017-18.

Source: Central Statistics Office (CSO), MoSPI.

(c) The CSO's approach of estimation of GVA in agriculture sector is predominantly production based. Since 2016-17 marked a record production of foodgrains and the base year 2015-16 (for calculating growth of GVA 2016-17) was a drought year, the GVA in Agriculture and Allied Sector recorded a high growth during 2016-17. In spite of a better agricultural output estimated for 2017-18, the GVA growth rate is moderate on account of the high output in the base year, viz. 2016-17.