

**Initiatives to boost agricultural growth**

3017. SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the factors that are responsible for reduced growth in the GDP for agricultural sector;
- (b) the specific initiatives that are being taken and proposed to be taken to boost agricultural growth;
- (c) the public investments in agriculture sector that are being made and proposed to boost agricultural growth; and
- (d) the specific initiatives that are being made and proposed to promote private investment in agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The overall economy has been growing at a faster rate than the agriculture sector resulting in a decline of the share of agriculture and allied sector in the economy. This is on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to industry and service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development process of developing economies including India.

(b) To increase growth of agriculture sector in the country and for welfare of the farmers, Government of India has been implementing various schemes namely Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)- to provide more flexibility to the States for boosting investment and enhancing productivity in agriculture and allied sector; Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)- to promote organic farming with usage of traditional resources, adopting eco-friendly low cost technologies; Soil Health Card scheme- for improving soil health and its productivity; Prime Minister Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)/ "Per Drop More Crop" - for precision irrigation and better on-farm water management practices to optimize the use of available water resources; National Agriculture Market Scheme (NAM) to connect mandis across the entire country through a common electronic-platform etc.

(c) and (d) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Government is primarily responsible for the growth and development of agriculture sector and developing

perspective plans for their respective States and ensuring effective implementation of the programmes/schemes. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/ Programmes.

Government has taken several steps for increasing investment in agriculture sector such as enhanced institutional credit to farmers; promotion of scientific warehousing infrastructure for increasing shelf life of agricultural produce; setting up of Agri-tech Infrastructure Fund for making farming competitive and profitable; developing commercial organic farming etc.

Further, under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, which is a major scheme for incentivizing States to increase investment in agriculture and allied sectors, 35% of annual outlay has been earmarked for infrastructure and asset development.

Apart from this, the Government has created various corpus funds like Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF), Micro Irrigation Fund, Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund, Fisheries and Aqua Culture Infrastructure Development Fund, Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund etc. to bring focus on infrastructure development in agriculture and allied sectors.

#### **Development of fishermen**

†3018. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing some schemes for the development and enhancement of the income of fishermen;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise;
- (c) whether Government has undertaken any review to implement above schemes in appropriate manner; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES (SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI): (a) and (b) The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries at a total central outlay of ₹3000 crore in

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.