

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1415
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH FEBRUARY, 2019

LOW AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

1415. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers are poor due to low productivity (yield per hectare) of all major crops in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons responsible for low productivity of agriculture in the country;
- (c) whether increase in agricultural productivity requires greater investment in farm inputs; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to increase investment, both public and private, in agriculture in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): Productivity of crops (yield per hectare) is one of the major factors that affect farmers' income. However, there are inter-state variations in case of productivity of major crops on account of difference in the levels of irrigation, weather and temperature conditions, resource endowment, farm mechanization, land-holding size, etc.

(c) & (d): While as per economic principles, growth in value added in other sectors arises from greater inputs usage and productivity gains, in agriculture the limits to availability of land makes productivity the key determinant of value added.

The existing schemes for development of agriculture sector have provisions for supply of farm inputs like seeds, plant protection chemicals, nutrients (secondary, micro and bio-nutrients), agricultural machinery and equipments, irrigation facilities, credit, etc., at subsidized rates to the farmers in the country.

Government has taken several steps for increasing investment in agriculture sector which include promotion of scientific warehousing infrastructure for increasing shelf life of agricultural produce; creation of Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF), Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund, Micro Irrigation Fund for water use efficiency; promoting commercial organic farming, etc. Under the revamped RKVY- RAFTAAR (Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation), 50 per cent of the regular RKVY-RAFTAAR outlay has been earmarked for infrastructure and assets.
