

Regarding establishment of National Rice Research Institute in Jaleswar, Odisha -laid

SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI (BALASORE): Rice, being a staple food in many States, holds immense significance for Indians, particularly Odisha. It dominates the agricultural landscape, covering approximately 63% of Odisha, and plays a pivotal role in influencing our State's economy. Rice cultivation serves as vital source of income and employment for our people. Hence, I strongly believe that the establishment of a National Rice Research Institute (NRRI) in Jaleswar, Odisha would contribute significantly to enhance agricultural productivity and ensure adoption of sustainable practices for rice farming. Additionally, given the challenge posed by frequent floods, deficit rainfall, and the lack of support for cash crops in our State, NRRI's efforts in genetic research and breeding programs can lead to the development of new rice varieties with desirable traits. These innovations would enable us to overcome the hurdles presented by climate change and other environmental factors. With the establishment of NRRI in Jaleswar, I believe that productivity of rice can improve exponentially and help the farmers in better planning of rice cultivation, in order to avoid financial losses. Further, for a State which is highly dependent on rice, the NRRI would be of immense value contributing towards empowerment of farmers to embrace modern technologies and practices, leading to enhanced productivity, better incomes, and holistic rural development. Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to consider the establishment of a National Rice Research Institute in Jaleswar.