

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3404
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000
YIELD OF RICE
GUNIPATI RAMAIAH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research are aware of the decline in some areas of the yield of rice per acre;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether wrong use of fertilisers is one of the main factor responsible for decline in rice production; and
- (d) if so, the steps ICAR has taken to improve rice productivity in delta areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Decreased rice yield per acre has been noticed in some States during particular years. A statement showing rice yield in important rice growing such States during nineties is given as Annexure.

(b) The reasons for such yield decline include year to year weather fluctuations, emerging micronutrient deficiencies, decline in soil quality, imbalanced use of fertilizers and higher incidence of diseases and pests. Also, one of the reasons of low productions per acre in Northern Region is cultivation of basmati type (fine grain quality) rice varieties in preference to others, which have comparatively higher yield potential but coarse grain type.

(c) The imbalanced use of fertilizers is one of the reasons leading to decreased rice yield.

(d) The ICAR has developed a well focused programme to improve rice productivity in delta areas. The major components of the programme are: development of better rice varieties with higher yields and tolerance to pests and diseases, evolving suitable agro-techniques, site specific Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods and transfer of technology programme.

ANNEXURE

Yield of rice (kg per hectare) in some important rice growing states during nineties.

Year	Punjab Nadu	Haryana Pradesh	Tamil Nadu	Madhya Kashmir	Orissa	Kerala	Jammu & Kashmir
1990-91	3229	2775	3116	1121	1210	1942	2086
1991-92	3257	2831	3115	1023	1464	1959	1949
1992-93	3391	2659	3116	1024	1213	2017	1863
1993-94	3507	2732	2841	1164	1452	1878	1863
1994-95	3383	2801	3394	1208	1426	1937	2157
1995-96	3132	2225	2712	1093	1375	2023	1863
1996-97	3397	2968	2672	1101	993	1958	1567
1997-98	3465	2800	3050	834	1380	1957	1992
1998-99	3152	2239	3443	1013	1212	1891	2179
1999-2000	3347	2383	3485	1187	1102	2256	1904

(estimates)