

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5526

ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005

PERIODICAL RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any periodic research in agriculture has been conducted to increase agricultural production in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any survey has been undertaken to monitor the impact of these researches on the agriculture production; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Research in agriculture and allied fields is being conducted in all the ongoing Plan Schemes of Department of Agricultural Research & Education/Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to increase agricultural production in the country. All research projects are discussed, periodically, in the meetings of Staff Research Council, Research Advisory Committee and Institute Management Committee, for achievements and shortcomings of the projects, prioritization, improvement, national and global context of research in the identified thrust areas.

(c) & (d): The ICAR undertakes the quinquennial review of its Institutes/All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) as an external time tested mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of research programmes. Through periodic research a number of high yielding varieties and hybrids in cereals, pulses, oilseeds etc. have been evolved. The data indicate that the productivity of foodgrains alone has improved from 522 kg/hectare during 1950-51 to 1734 kg/hectare in 2001-02. A single variety of wheat PBW 343 has occupied around 70 lakh hectares in North West and North Eastern Plain Zones of the country. Similarly hybrid rice having yield advantage of more than one tonne over the existing varieties is presently occupying about 5.5 lakh hectares in the country. The milk production was raised from 38.8 million tonnes during 1983-84 to 84.8 million tonnes in 2001-02. The corresponding figures for eggs during the same period were 12.8 billion numbers (1983-84) and 39.1 billion numbers (2001-02). Fish production witnessed a spectacular growth from 7.52 lakh tonnes (1950-51) to 59.56 lakh tonnes (2001-02).