

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:286
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
IMPROVED VARIETY OF PADDY
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed new high yield varieties of paddy which are suitable to different climates of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any arrangement to make these varieties available to the farmers for commercial production;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which above paddy seeds available to the farmers alongwith the quantum thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Development of new high yielding varieties and hybrids of rice suitable for different agro-climatic situations in the country is one of the major thrust areas of research under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). During 1996 to 2006, a total of 147 rice varieties/hybrids have been released for cultivation for different climatic situations both under central/state releases. Also recently, ICAR has identified four new varieties and one hybrid in rice during 42nd Annual Rice Research Group Meeting during 9-11 April, 2007 held at Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad. The details of these newly developed varieties/hybrids are given in Annexure I. Out of four varieties and one hybrid identified, one variety namely Improved Pusa Basmati-1 (IET 18990) has already been approved by the Central Sub-Committee on Crop Standards, Notification and Release of varieties of Agricultural Crop (CSCSNRV). The remaining identified varieties and hybrids will be placed for consideration of CSCSNRV.

(c) to (e): The varietal release and notification is the pre-requisite for production of certified seeds. The ICAR is already producing the breeder seed of the released and notified varieties as well as the parental lines of the hybrids as per the indent from the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. A total quantity of 9934.46 quintals of breeder seed of different varieties and parental lines of the hybrids have been produced during 2001-02 to 2005-06 for further production of foundation and certified seeds. Breeder seed demand of the newly developed rice varieties will also be met after their release and notification for further production of foundation and certified seeds for use by the farmers.