

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1424

ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009

NEW VARIETY OF PADDY

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new variety of paddy has been developed by the scientists which yields 3.5 tonnes per hectare despite remaining submerged in water for 20 days;

(b) if so, the details of the development of this variety alongwith the regions of the country where use of this variety could be most beneficial;

(c) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and other Agricultural Universities propose to increase commercial production of the said variety of paddy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): A new variety of rice i.e. Swarna Sub-1 has been developed under the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) collaborative research programme. The gene for submergence tolerance (Sub-1) was cloned by IRRI from the famous Indian flood tolerant variety FR-13-A and was transferred into the popular Indian rice variety Swarna and hence the name of this variety as Swarna Sub-1. This variety produces 3.0 to 3.5 tones per hectare even if it remains submerged for about two weeks. It has been found beneficial for growing for the States of Orissa and Uttar Pradesh where it has been released for cultivation. Swarna Sub-1 is also being tested for its suitability under submerged conditions for the other states as well under All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project.

(c) & (d): Indian Council of Agricultural Research is mandated for the production of breeder seed. The breeder seed is produced at various ICAR Institutes/State Agricultural Universities based on the indents received from Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India. Narendra Dev University of Agriculture & Technology, Faizabad (NDUA&T) is also engaged in promoting this variety through demonstrations and production of quality seed.