

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:252

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010

SOWING OF RICE

Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar;Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sowing of rice has picked up pace across the country;
- (b) if so, the pace of rice sowing in different States in the current year as compared to the last three years, Statewise; and
- (c) the encouragement being given to rice sowing farmers for the current year, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per preliminary trends received from the State Governments as on 16-07-2010, area coverage under rice has been 124.78 lakh hectares which is higher by 2.38 lakh hectares as compared to the area coverage of 122.40 lakh hectares during the corresponding period of last year. State-wise details of sowing position of rice in the country during the year 2010-11 (as on 16.07.2010) along with the sowing during the corresponding periods in the last three years are given in the Annexure.

(c): In order to encourage farmers to increase production and productivity of rice in the country, the Government of India is implementing various programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented in 17 States of the country. Major interventions being promoted under NFSM-Rice include; giving incentives for use of latest agricultural machinery/tools, providing subsidy for production and distribution of Hybrid rice seeds, providing mini kits of High Yielding Variety rice & Hybrid rice, conducting large number of demonstrations to promote High Yielding Varieties of rice, promoting use of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) techniques for rice cultivation etc. Besides, the Minimum Support Price for paddy is also announced by the Government to ensure remunerative prices to farmers.