

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:431
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009
RICE RESEARCH CENTRES
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is laying adequate emphasis over research network of Rice Research Centres in the country so as to make these institutes farmers friendly;
- (b) if so, the action plan formulated in this regard;
- (c) the programmes drawn up by the Rice Research Institute, Bidyadharpur and Chiplima in Orissa to assist the farmers;
- (d) the new variety of crops developed by these centres and popularized among the farmers;and
- (e) the extent to which the farmers reacted positively to such varieties?

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): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is giving adequate emphasis over research networks of Rice Research Centres in the country. Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad, coordinates rice research networks of 47 funded centres across the country established in various State Agricultural Universities/State Department of Agriculture etc. with the major mandates of coordinating the multi-location, multidisciplinary testing of varietal and management technologies under the All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Programme.

Rice Research is also conducted at Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack (Orissa), Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi specially for basmati rice and Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, Almora for hill rice and ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Hills Region (NEH), Uniam (Meghalaya).

More than 800 rice varieties/hybrids alongwith their production/protection technologies suited for various ecologies have been developed and also tested under the frontline demonstrations for their suitability in farmers field. To address the various problems of the farmers, Kisan melas, farmers training etc. are also being organized through various State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) centres and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) across the country.

(c) to (e): A close coordination exists between Central Rice Research Institute (CRR), Cuttack (Bidyadharpur) and Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT), Bhubaneswar having its research station at Chiplima/other places and the State Department of Agriculture. Interaction meetings are held twice a year (one before Kharif and the other before Rabi seasons) between the officials of the State Department of Agriculture, CRR and OUAT to discuss about the action plans to be adopted for improved rice cultivation practices for the ensuing crop season.

CRR and OUAT have developed several rice varieties/hybrids. Some of the popular varieties/hybrids are: Vandana, Gayatri, Savitri, Rajalaxmi (hybrid), Ajay (hybrid), Virendra, Abhishek, Chandrama, Varshadhan, Lalat, Bhanja, Birupa, Gajapati etc.

The farmers are highly receptive to the new varieties and technologies developed at CRR/OUAT which have performed very well under the frontline demonstrations in the farmers field.