

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1562
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011
YIELD AND TRADE IN RICE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the rank that India holds in production and consumption of rice in the world;
- (b) whether the share of India in the global rice trade is minimal;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the per hectare yield of rice in the country is lower than the world`s average;
- (e) if so, the details during the said period alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the yield and trade in rice?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) : India holds second rank both in terms of production and consumption of rice in the world.

(b): Government had banned export of non-basmati rice in October, 2007. Before 2008, India was the third largest exporter. Since, the imposition of restrictions, the country`s position in global trade has come down.

(c): India`s export viz-a-viz world export of rice during 2007- 08 to 2009 - 10 are as under: (in Million Tonnes) Year Export of Rice
India World 2007-08 6.5 29.7 2008-09 2.5 29.3 2009-10 2.1 31.6 Source: DGCIS Food & Agricultural Organization

(d) & (e): the yield of rice in India is 2.17 tonnes/hectare (Three Years Average T.E. 2008-09) as compared to the world average yield of 4.21 tonnes/hectare in 2008. The lower productivity/yield of rice could be attributed to factors such as soil condition, low area coverage under irrigation, low expansion of hybrid rice and improved varieties, non-judicious use of fertilizers/nutrients, etc.

(f): To bridge the yield gaps and enhance production of rice in the country, Government of India has been implementing several Crop Development Schemes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM) – Rice, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

(RKVY), etc. Incentives on various interventions like seeds, micronutrients and soil ameliorants, machinery etc. are extended to the farmers to bridge the yield gap of rice along with other major crops like wheat and pulses to contribute to the national food basket. Further, enhancing and stabilizing rice productivity in all eco systems in the country is the major thrust area of agricultural research.

Government has entered into bilateral/regional trade agreements with various trading partners to obtain better market access for India's products. Besides, Government is implementing a number of export promotion schemes, including Scheme for Market Development, Scheme for Infrastructure Development, Scheme for quality Development, Scheme for Research & Development and Scheme for Transport Assistance. Exports of specific agricultural products are also promoted under Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana.