# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1104
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WORKSHOP ON PRODUCTIVITY
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether there is a huge difference in the production and productivity of wheat and paddy in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to organise a workshop on agriculture productivity in Jharkhand;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government for agricultural research and development and to increase agriculture productivity per hectare?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. There are differences in the production and productivity level of wheat and paddy in different states due to differences in soil type, climatic conditions and crop period (time from sowing to maturity). In North western Plains zone the Wheat crop period is aground 140 days while it is 120 days in Central Zone and 100 days in peninsular Zone. However, efforts are afoot to reduce the differences in the productivity by developing shorter duration varieties suitable for warmer areas of Central and Peninsular India. A large numbers of such varieties with high yield potential have been promoted to farmers leading to record production of what during last three years.

(c) to (e): Directorate of Wheat Research (DWR), ICAR organized various meetings to plan strategies for further increasing wheat production and productivity in collaboration with Jharkhand state Agricultural Department and Agricultural Universities. Wheat breeding centers in the state have been supplied a large number of wheat germplasm for improving wheat production.

A meeting was organized at BHU, Varanasi during the wheat sowing season, for the Eastern States including Jharkhand for finalizing the wheat production strategies in order to reduce yield gaps between the achievable and the realized yields. A team consisting of extension workers agronomists and breeders from DWR and Agricultural University in Ranchi, Jharkhand was constituted to monitor the general crop condition and to identified diseases, if any to take measures for improving wheat productivity. A large number of elite germplasms were sent to the centers engaged in wheat research in Jharkhand.

More focus is on development of climatic resilient rice varieties as part of National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) project of Govt. of India. Greater emphasis is also on molecular precision breeding to improve existing popular mega varieties of rice to make them resistant to biotic stresses and tolerant to abiotic stresses like drought, floods, cold and high temperatures. Conservation agricultural practices are developed to bring down the cost of cultivation to make rice farming more profitable.

Besides, various demonstrations on HYV and Hybrid rice are being conducted under various schemes. System of Rice Intensification (SRI) is being popularized among the farmers under various schemes in almost all the states. Rice Seed minikit programme are taken up under various scheme to popularize new released HYV and hybrids among farmers. Rice seeds of Swarna Sub-I (submergence tolerance) are distributed in flood prone areas and Sahabhagi Dhan for drought prone areas in the country.