

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5275
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012
PRODUCTION OF SONA MASSORI RICE
Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a super fine variety of Sona Massori Rice is being produced on a large scale at Koppal district and surrounding areas in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce new technology to encourage farmers to increase rice production and ensure its export potentiality; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Superfine variety of Sona Massori rice is being produced in about 10,779 hectares in Koppal district of Karnataka. The Government of Karnataka State has included growing of superfine varieties of Sona Massori under Bhoochethana scheme from the year 2012-13 and recommended technologies for higher productivity are being encouraged for adoption under Bhoochethana programme. Under this scheme, subsidies for purchasing seeds provided to the farmers varied from 25% to 50% and sold through farmer contact centres for large scale cultivation. Most of the rice varieties grown in Koppal district are of fine and superfine quality where special thrust is given for use of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) along with recommended dose of fertilizers based on soil test reports. Intensive training programme is conducted for the production technologies of different crops. Services of farm facilitators are provided for effective adoption of production technologies by the farmers in their fields.

During the year 2010, the Government of Karnataka proposed rice technology park to promote the cultivation of superfine varieties including Sona Massori and to provide good post harvest technology for export promotion of rice in this region.