

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7475
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
PRODUCTIVITY OF CROPS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the average production per hectare of cotton, maize, mustard, paddy, pulse, sugarcane and wheat in the country;
- (b) whether the productivity of crops has not increased despite the expenditure incurred thereon and is also not in accordance with international standards;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the productivity of the above crops at par with international standard in the country?

Answer

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

(a): Details of average production per hectare (productivity) of cotton, maize, rapeseed & mustard, paddy (in terms of rice), pulses, sugarcane and wheat during 2007-08 to 2011-12 are given in the table below given annexure.

(b) & (c): It is observed that the productivity of all the above crops in the country has improved during 11th Plan Period. However, productivity of most of the crops in India is still lower as compared to international standards. As per reports of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2010 (latest available), a comparative position of productivity of above crops in India vis-à-vis other major countries alongwith the world average productivity is given in the table below given annexure.

Major reasons for low productivity of various crops in the country as compared to other countries are small & fragmented land holdings, lack of irrigation facilities improper nutrient & pest management, low use of good quality seeds, lack of adequate machinery and low adoption of improved package of practices, etc.

(d): In order to enhance productivity of various agricultural crops Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) undertakes research programmes to increase the productivity of crops like cotton, maize, mustard, paddy, pulse, sugarcane and wheat through crop based research institutes. The research programmes include basic and strategic research related to crop improvement, crop production, crop protection, post harvest operations, value addition, etc. The technical information so developed are used by crop specific All India Coordinated Research Projects situated in State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) to develop location specific varieties and technologies. Total 136 improved varieties/ hybrids in these important crops have been released during 2010-11 by National Agricultural Research System (NARS). Apart from the varieties developed for high yield and tolerance to diseases, several trait specific varieties and crop production and protection technologies etc. have also been developed.