

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5529  
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013  
PRODUCTION OF BASMATI RICE  
Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the annual production of export quality basmati rice in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of an Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) study regarding the enormous effect of global warming on the fragrant basmati rice; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to develop a new heat resistant basmati variety?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

- (a) The annual production of export quality basmati rice in the country during last five years is around 7 million tonnes.
- (b) Yes, Madam.
- (c) The efforts of breeding semi-dwarf, high yielding varieties of basmati rice are towards meeting the challenges of changing climatic conditions within the basmati growing regions of Indo Gangetic Plains. Basmati rice varieties such as Pusa Basmati 1, Pusa Basmati 1121, Improved Pusa Basmati 1, Pusa Basmati 6, etc. released by Indian Agricultural Research Institute have been bred to take care of the expected temperature variation in the basmati growing zone. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has launched a network programme "National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture" since 2011 to develop climate resilient varieties in crops including rice. Recently, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has developed a short duration basmati rice variety which matures in 120 days and can be planted in the last week of July to escape high temperature in the initial stage.