

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2979

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013

CULTIVATION OF RICE

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

- (a) whether the production of rice has declined in certain parts of the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether the cultivation of rice has been affected during its transplanting season due to paucity of agricultural workers/labourers across the country and if so, the details thereof along with the remedial measures taken in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to promote the System of Rice Intensification and the cultivation of hybrid rice for increasing the production of rice to meet the requirement in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the incentives given to the farmers during the said period?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): State-wise details of production of rice during the last three years i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13 are given in the Annexure. Production estimates of rice for the current year i.e. 2013-14 have not been prepared so far.

During the period 2010-11 to 2012-13, decline in rice production has been mainly reported in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. The decline in production has been mainly on account of decrease in area coverage/productivity due to erratic rainfall conditions.

(c): As transplanting of rice is a labour intensive operation simultaneously done in many areas, there is a general shortage of labour during peak agricultural season. Recognising the need for peak season demand for labour and to reduce costs, the Government of India is encouraging use of appropriate mechanization eg. use of rice transplanters and drum seeders for above agricultural operations.

(d) & (e): System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and Hybrid Rice technologies are being promoted in large scale under the schemes namely; Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI) and national Food Security Mission (NFSM) to increase the production and productivity of rice in the country. The Government is also providing subsidy towards critical inputs for adopting SRI. Further to incentives farmers by ensuring remunerative prices, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of rice has also been increased substantially.