

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3975

ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014

CULTIVATION OF PADDY

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

- (a) the details of the area under the cultivation of paddy in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the area under the cultivation of paddy has declined in several States despite increase in consumption of fertilizers and pesticides during the said period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the consumption of fertilizers and pesticides in the cultivation of paddy during the same period;
- (d) whether the per acre production of rice in the country is less than the world's average and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the area and productivity of rice in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) to (c): State-wise details of area under cultivation of paddy/rice during each of the last three years and current year i.e. 2010-11 to 2013-14 are given in the Annexure. Depending on the rainfall situation, shift in area to other competing crops, etc., the area under cultivation of rice in the country as well as in different States/UTs has been generally following a fluctuating trend.

Crop-wise details of consumption of fertilizers and pesticides are not maintained. However, the details of total consumption of fertilizers and pesticides during the last three years are as under:-

Year Consumption (in '000 Tonnes)		
	Fertilizers	Pesticides
2010-11	52678.18	55.54
2011-12	53180.14	52.98
2012-13	48894.48	45.39

As on 20.02.2013.

(d): According to Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) data for 2012 (latest available), as against the World's average rice productivity of 2940 kg/hectare, the productivity of rice in India stands at 2462 kg/hectare.

Major reasons for low productivity of rice in India as compared to other major rice producing countries of the world are; small and fragmented land holdings, erratic rainfall, inadequate irrigation facilities, low consumption of farm inputs like fertilizers, quality seeds and pesticides, low adoption of improved package of practices, etc. Further, the tropical climatic conditions and frequent occurrence of natural calamities in the eastern coast also pull down the average productivity of rice in the country.

(e): To increase production of rice in the country by area expansion and enhancement of yield, Government of India has been implementing various Crops Development Schemes/Programmes such as; National Food Security Mission on Rice, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) as a sub-scheme of RKVY, etc. Further, to improve productivity of rice in the country, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting basic and strategic research related to different aspects of crop improvement, crop production and crop protection through Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack and all India Coordinated Research Project on Rice coordinated by Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad.