

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:57  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015  
PADDY CULTIVATION  
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the extent of agricultural land utilised in the country for paddy cultivation during the last three years and the current year; and  
(b) the steps taken to increase the paddy cultivation in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIA)

(a): The details of area coverage under Paddy/rice cultivation in the country during the last three years and the current year, i.e., 2011-12 to 2014-15 are as under:-

Year	Area Coverage under Paddy/Rice (Lakh Hectares)
2011-12	440.06
2012-13	427.54
2013-14	441.36
2014-15	434.16

As per 2nd advance estimates

(b): To increase the paddy (rice) cultivation in the country, Government of India has been implementing various Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission on Rice (NFSM-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 paddy (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 (AIRCP) on Rice coordinated by Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), Hyderabad.

To further boost rice productivity and production, improved rice varieties and hybrids are being developed with higher yield, stress tolerance and with good cooking qualities by harnessing the modern tools of biotechnology and also through conventional breeding. Special emphasis is given to develop rice varieties which are climate resilient in view of the predicted adverse effect of climate change on rice production in the years to come and also on conservation agricultural practices to bring down the cost of cultivation.