GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3727 ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014 PRODUCTIVITY OF FOODGRAINS .

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the productivity of foodgrain, rice, wheat and pulses has witnessed a declining trend in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether as per reports of International Food Policy Research Institute, the production of foodgrain is expected to decline and the prices of these crops will increase in the next ten years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the productivity of foodgrains along with the financial incentives given/ being given to the farmers for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): The sowing window of kharif crops during the current agricultural year is still open and it is too early to assess their productivity for 2014-15. The details of productivity of rice, wheat, pulses and foodgrains during the last three years, i.e., 2011-12 to 2013-14 are as under:

Crop Yield (Kg./Hectare) 2011-12 2012-13 2013-14# Rice 2393 2461 2419 Wheat 3177 3117 3059 Pulses 699 789 770 Foodgrains 2078 2129 2095 # 3rd advance estimates

It may be observed that depending on the overall weather/rainfall situation in the country, there have been minor fluctuations in the productivity of above crops during the last three years.

(c) & (d): There is no report of International Food Policy Research Institute indicating decline in production and increase in prices of foodgrains during the next ten years.

(e): In order to increase the productivity of foodgrains, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is having research programmes in different foodgrain crops at different commodity/theme based research institutes in the country. These research institutes take up basic and strategic research programmes related to crop productivity improvement which form a base for applied research in different crops.

The information so developed is used by 28 commodity/theme based All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) and All India Network Projects (AINPs) mostly situated in State Agricultural Universities to develop location specific varieties and technologies as per agro-ecological needs.