

Development of new variety of paddy

†3864. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new variety of paddy has been developed by scientists which despite getting submerged in water for twenty days yields 3.5 tonne per hectare;

(b) the details of development process along with the areas where the usage of this variety may be most beneficial;

(c) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research and other Agricultural Universities propose to increase the commercial production of the said variety;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the further steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

(a) Yes, Sir. Swarna-sub 1 variety developed under the collaborative project of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), tested and identified by Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack, yields around 3.5 tonnes/ha despite remained submerged in water for two weeks.

(b) Swarna-Sub 1 was developed by incorporating submergence tolerance QTL [SUB1] into Swarna variety using Marker-assisted backcross breeding procedure. This variety is beneficial to the farmers of flash flood areas in States of Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. A total quantity of 78 quintals of breeder seed has been indented. This quantity is being produced during ensuing Kharif season 2010 at CRRI, Cuttack. For commercial production of this variety the breeder seed is further multiplied of foundation and certified seed to make it available to farmers.

Technological innovation

3865. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research had introduced 36 models of technological innovation based sustainable rural livelihood in more than 100 most disadvantaged districts in the country thereby benefiting 50,000 farm families;

(b) if so, the name of districts covered in Maharashtra;

(c) whether tribal predominant districts were also covered; and

(d) if not, by when such districts in tribal belt and economically backward Vidarbha region would be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.