

Chinese model of plantation

561. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to follow the Chinese model of plantation of paddy and other high yielding seeds to increase the production of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the agricultural yield in the country is very low as compared to China and if so, the facts thereof; and
- (d) the concrete steps taken by Government to increase the agricultural yield in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) to (d) In the consultative Workshop organized at Kolkata on 9-10th July, 2010 on new initiative "Bringing Green Revolution in the Eastern India", promotion of hybrid rice based on Chinese model was highlighted as one of the main interventions that needs to be promoted to ensure increase in rice productivity. India is the second country next to China to have successfully commercialized hybrid rice technology.

The average rice yield in India is lower (about 3.0 t/ha) than in China (6.6t/ha). The yield in China are high due to large scale adoption of hybrid rice; complete irrigation; higher organic matter due to higher use of nutrients; uniform growing conditions; intensive cultivation practices adopted by small farmers. In India, rice is grown under diverse conditions of which more than 50 percent of the area is under unfavourable environment. The area under hybrid rice in India is just 3 percent as against 60 percent in China.

Apart from the new initiative on "Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India," wherein states have planned to give thrust to hybrid rice promotion; Govt. of India has been promoting hybrid rice on a large scale under National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice), Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc.

As a follow up of the Kolkata workshop, a Task Force at National level for promotion of Hybrid rice has been constituted to prepare a work plan for significantly increasing area under hybrid rice. The country has already released 43 Varieties of hybrid rice till date including 15 hybrid rice varieties from the private sector. It is expected that with the strong policy back-up, intensive research and active promotion, hybrid rice will be able to cover a large area thereby increasing rice production to a great extent.

Use of barren land

562. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: