

76	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]				Unstarred Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Safflower	701	642	621	617	498	-203	
Sunflower	765	639	576	701	692	-73	
Soyabean	1235	1041	1024	1327	1207	-28	
Total Oilseeds (Edible Oil)	1115	1006	958	1193	1135	20	

* 4th Advance Estimates

Need to establish Rice Development Board in Assam

1423. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate of Rice Development in Patna, Bihar is the only rice development centre in Eastern India;

(b) whether Assam produces 37.5 lakh tons of rice per year and is there a need to establish a Rice Development Board in the State to promote different varieties of rice; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The research and development of rice is being carried out by the Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack and its regional stations located at Hazaribagh (Jharkhand) and Gerua (Assam) under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Directorate of Rice Development located at Patna. Hence, a stand alone institution like Rice Development Board is not required. The improved production technologies including varieties/hybrids of rice are promoted through various crop development programmes such as National Food Security Mission — Rice (NFSM-Rice), Integrated Cereal Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice) under Macro Management of Agriculture, Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI)-a sub Scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc.

Effect of El Nino on Agriculture

1424. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: