

Community based approach for cultivation of rice

2584. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on low cost, eco-friendly and community based approach to rice cultivation to improve the grain's yield across the country, if so, the details thereof and results yielded so far; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is promoting low cost, eco friendly and community based approach to rice cultivation to improve the grain's yield across the country through various crop development schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Under these programmes, various interventions like promotion of direct seeded rice (DSR) for reducing labour and water requirement, system of rice intensification (SRI) for low seed rate and less water requirement, line sowing of rice by use of seed drill instead of broadcasting in rainfed conditions to save seeds are being promoted. Farmers are also encouraged to adopt optimum use of inputs like seed, fertilizers, pesticides etc. as per recommendation of National Agricultural Research System to reduce cost of cultivation.

Unremunerative agriculture

†2585. DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture has become an unremunerative profession; and

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) As per the "Situation of Agricultural Households in India" survey, conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) between July 2012 to June 2013, on an average, returns from crop production have been positive and cultivation was the most important source of income of agriculture households in India.

Further, the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices in its latest reports on Kharif and Rabi Price Policy has also observed that gross value of output has exceeded the sum of all paid out costs and cost of family labour (A2+FL) for major crops.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.