

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1655
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
PRODUCTION OF BASMATI RICE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Basmati Rice Research Centres in the country State-wise and location-wise;
- (b) the new varieties of basmati rice developed by ICAR during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to make easily available the seeds of basmati rice to small and marginal farmers of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith total production of basmati rice during the last three years;
- (e) whether ICAR has undertaken any research work or study for the production of better basmati rice in Andhra Pradesh and other rice producing States;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

- (a) There is no research center exclusively established for basmati rice research in the country.
- (b) No variety of basmati rice has been released by the ICAR during last three years.
- (c) & (d) Demand based seed production of basmati rice varieties is undertaken on year to year basis. Assistance is provided on certified rice seed so as to motivate farmers to grow newly released varieties under the centrally sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme of Government of India, and preference is given to small and marginal farmers.

The total rice production in the country during last three years is as under:

Year	Million Tonnes
1997-98	82.53
1998-99	85.99
1999-2000	88.25 (estimated)

Variety-wise rice production data are not recorded.

- (e), (f) & (g) The headquarters of All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project are located at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, but basically basmati rice research for Andhra Pradesh is not contemplated. Instead, emphasis is laid on hybrid rice research and development. Research on basmati is concentrated in basmati growing areas of the country.