GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:794
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
RESEARCH WORK UNDER ICAR .
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether research centres under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have conducted any research to increase the productivity and quality of wheat and rice;

(b) If so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(c) The extent to which the farmers have been benefited therefrom?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b):The Research Institutes/Directorates under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research alongwith the All India Coordinated Research Improvement Projects (Wheat and Rice) are engaged in research programmes to increase the productivity and quality of wheat and rice.

These programmes include developing suitable high yielding varieties and hybrids for different production conditions. During the last three years, a number of varieties of wheat and rice have been developed for high yield and also for quality. Some of these specially for quality are : Rice (Pusa Sugandh 2, Pusa Sugandh 3, Pusa Sugandh 5, Suruchi(Hybrid), Pusa 1121, Sugandhmati, Vasumati, Yamini, Pant Sugandh Dhan 15, Pant Sugandh Dhan 17 and others.

For Wheat superior varieties have been identified for different wheat products like chapati: (C 306, Raj 3765, PBW 226, UP 262, NW 1014, LOK 1, Sujata HI 1500, HD 2833 etc.), Bread: (HD 2733, PBW 396 , NI 5439 etc.), Pasta: (PDW 233, WH 896, HI 8498, MACS 2846 etc.).

Efforts have also been made to reduce cost of cultivation through resource conservation technologies. Zero tillage produces similar or higher wheat yield compared to conventional tillage at reduced cost. Bed planting is resource conservation technology which saves 20-30% water and around 25% seed and nitrogenous fertilizers.

(c)The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is mandated to produce the breeder seed as per the indent of Deptt. of Agriculture and Cooperation, Govt. of India. These indents have not only been fully met but in several cases higher quantity of breeder seed has been produced. During the period 2002 to 2004, a total of 34828.78 quintals of breeder seed of wheat was produced while in case of paddy 5855.79 quintals of breeder seed was produced. These breeder seeds in turn are meant to produce the foundation and certified seeds for use by farmers.