

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:265  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006  
PRODUCTION OF PADDY  
Singh Shri Ganesh

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) The production of paddy in the country during the last three years, year-wise ;
- (b) Whether the production of paddy has declined in the country during the current year ;
- (c) If so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) The measures being taken by the Government to increase the production of paddy?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.265 DUE FOR REPLY ON THE 11TH DECEMBER, 2006.

(a) : The production of paddy in the country during the last three years was as under: 132.80 million tonnes during 2003-04, 124.70 million tonnes during 2004-05 and 136.56 million tonnes during 2005-06.

(b) :As per the 1st Advance estimates released on 15.09.2006, production of paddy for Kharif 2006-07 is estimated at 113.61 million tonnes, which is 3.45 million tonnes less than the fourth advance estimates of 117.06 million tonnes for Kharif 2005-06.

(c): The main reason for decline in production is less area coverage, estimated at 38.08 million hectare for Kharif 2006-07 (1st Advance Estimates) compared to 39.24 million hectares for Kharif 2005-06 (4th Advance Estimates).

(d) : In order to increase the production of paddy, the Government is implementing a major Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice)' under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided on 90:10 percent basis between the Government of India and the State Governments, especially for production and distribution of seeds. Further, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed more than 700 high yielding varieties and 28 hybrids suitable for different agro-climatic conditions. Frontline demonstrations are also organized by ICAR on farmers' fields on 100% Central Government assistance for transfer of technology. A minimum price guarantee is also provided to the paddy growers through the price support mechanism.