

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-342**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09/12/2022

**CULTIVATION OF SDVS OF RICE FOR STRAW MANAGEMENT**

342. SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:  
SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government concur with the view that cultivation of Short Duration Varieties (SDVs) makes rice straw management easier as these varieties produce lesser quantities of straw and also help vacate the field earlier and thereby widen the window between rice harvesting and wheat sowing; and
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to promote cultivation of SDVs, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI NARENDEERA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) The cultivation of Short Duration Varieties (SDVs) provide extended window between Kharif harvesting of paddy and wheat sowing for Rabi, thereby giving sufficient time to the rice farmers for in-situ management and removal of excess paddy straw. The varietal trait for height is inherent in self-pollinated crop like paddy. The dwarf varieties have less production of straw as compared to the tall varieties.
- (b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) have developed high-yielding short duration Basmati rice varieties including Pusa Basmati 1509 (115 days), Pusa Basmati 1692 (115 days) and Pusa Basmati 1847 (125 days) and non-basmati category, aromatic rice varieties PR 126 (120-125 days), Pusa Sugandh 5 (125 days) and Pusa 1612 (120 days). These early maturing varieties mature about 20-25 days in advance which enable farmers for straw management and preparation of the fields for wheat sowing.

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to increase the production and productivity of foodgrain crops including rice. The various interventions such as cluster demonstrations on direct seeded rice, line transplanting, stress tolerant varieties etc., distribution of quality seeds of high yielding varieties including Short Duration Varieties & hybrids, micro-nutrients, soil ameliorants, plant protection chemicals, farm equipments and machinery are implemented to increase rice production and productivity.

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