

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 235**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13/03/2026

**CULTIVATION AND EXPORT OF TULAIPANJI RICE**

\*235. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the increasing cultivation and export demand for Tulaipanji rice in Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal;
- (b) the initiatives that have been taken by Government to promote Tulaipanji rice both domestically and internationally, including financial incentives and technical support to farmers; and
- (c) whether Government is working with farmers to promote organic farming methods, especially in the cultivation of Tulaipanji rice, if so, the specific measures being implemented to avoid the use of chemical fertilizers?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

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

**STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.235 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/03/2026 REGARDING “CULTIVATION AND EXPORT OF TULAIPANJI RICE”**

(a) & (b): The Government of India has recognized the importance of the Tulaipanji Rice and it has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in the year 2017 as the crop is a significant aromatic rice, primarily cultivated in Uttar Dinajpur. Tulaipanji Rice has also been recognized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) under the Food and Culture Heritage in 2026.

The Government of India supports the conservation and promotion of traditional/ farmers' varieties of seeds through policy measures, institutional mechanisms and financial assistance. Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Act, (PPV&FR Act), 2001 recognizes and protects farmers’ varieties and provides for registration of farmers’ varieties, benefit sharing and recognition through Plant Genome Saviour wards to farmers conserving traditional genetic resources. PPVFR Authority has registered Tulaipanji rice variety in 2016 to promote its cultivation and commercialization after granting protection.

The Agriculture Department, Government of West Bengal, has informed that the area of Tulaipanji Rice cultivation has increased from 350 ha in 2011-12 to 9500 ha in 2025-26 through various initiatives such as "Indigenous Aromatic Rice - a Precious Wealth: It's Area Expansion and Seed Multiplication" since Kharif 2012. Similarly, since Kharif 2025 support has been provided by the state under the initiative "Area Expansion of GI Rice and some special rice varieties".

The Demonstrations & Capacity Building Programmes conducted for Tulaipanji Rice during the year 2021 to 2025 in the “Indigenous Aromatic Rice - a Precious Wealth: Its Area Expansion & Seed Multiplication” under PM-Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVVY) is as given below:

S. No.	Components	Kharif 2021	Kharif 2022	Kharif 2023	Kharif 2024	Kharif 2025	Financial Involvement (Rs. in Lakh)
1	Area Expansion Demonstration (Ha)	1275	1149	1650	1603	745	301.83
2	Area Sustenance Demonstration (Ha)	725	1275	1149	1075	1603	273.86
3	Seed Production Demonstration (Ha)	22	22	22	22	22	5.17
4	Integrated Pest Management Demonstration (Ha)	2000	2424	2799	2678	2348	189.85
5	Daylong Capacity Building Programme (No.)	20	24	28	26	23	30.62

The Demonstrations & Capacity Building Programmes conducted for Tulaipanji Rice during Kharif 2025 under State’s Development Scheme is as given below:

S.No	Components	Kharif 2025	Financial Involvement (Rs. In Lakh)
1	Area Expansion Demonstration (Ha)	100	3
2	Daylong Capacity Building Programme (No.)	5	0.625

Tulaipanji rice has been showcased at various events such as the World Food India and AAHAR, Indus Food, Biofach India, Gulfood 2026, Bharat International Rice Conference and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of India International Rice Summit 2026.

(c): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through its Plan Scheme “Network Project on Organic Farming” (NPOF) also undertakes research to develop location specific organic farming package of practices for crops and cropping systems including Rice.

To preserve its characteristic aroma and flavour, the Tulaipanji rice is predominantly grown using organic manure.

Organic Farming in Tulaipanji Rice cultivation is promoted under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) since 2015-16 and also through implementation of the State’s Bio-village scheme. Further, Demonstration Centres (DCs) are being organized and training programmes on organic farming are held under various schemes. Under the PKVY scheme, a total of Rs.47.85 Crores (Central share as on 31.12.2025) has been released since 2015-16 to the state of West Bengal for the promotion of organic farming including for Tulaipanji Rice.

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