

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 506**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/02/2018

**INDIGENOUS VARIETIES OF RICE**

506. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any record regarding survival of the indigenous varieties of rice in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the fact that almost 1,04,000 out of 1,10,000 indigenous varieties of rice have disappeared from paddy fields during the last fifty years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to preserve indigenous varieties of rice of the country?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री  
**(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

**(a) & (b):** ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi is the nodal institute at national level for collection, characterization, evaluation, conservation and exchange of plant genetic resources. The conserved indigenous/traditional varieties at NBPGR are multiplied as per the viability aspects of the seeds and seeds of these varieties are shared with scientists on request. NBPGR has conserved more than 45,000 indigenous varieties/traditional cultivars of rice from different states in the National Genebank (NGB) for long-term storage (**Table 1**).

**(c) to (e):** ICAR-NBPGR, since its inception is conducting exploration for collection and conservation of the indigenous varieties of rice from different parts of the country and as a result, more than 45,000 indigenous varieties of rice have been conserved in its National Genebank for long-term storage.

In addition, under PPV&FR Act, 2001, the Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers Rights Authority (PPV&FRA), New Delhi grants Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to farmers' varieties which are traditionally cultivated and evolved by the farmers which also include wild relatives, land races of crops about which farmers possess common knowledge. So far, PPV&FRA has received 6305 applications in case of rice of which 5526 applications are exclusively from farmers. Till now, 1475 registration certificates have been issued in case of rice of which about 1200 IPRs are granted to farmers.

Further to encourage the farmers for conserving the indigenous/local varieties, the PPV&FR Authority annually confers Plant Genome Saviour Awards (Rs. 10 Lakhs to each of the five farming communities), Plant Genome Saviour Farmer Rewards (Rs. 1.5 Lakhs to each of the 10 farmers) and Plant Genome Saviour Farmers Recognition (Rs. 1 Lakhs to each of the 20 farmers). So every year 35 awards amounting to Rs. 85 Lakhs are awarded to Farmer(s)/Farming Communities for encouraging them. So far total 124 awards have been conferred to Farmer(s)/Farming Community.

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**Table-1**

[Part (a) &amp; (b) of Lok Sabha USQ No. 506 for 06/02/2018]

**The number of unique indigenous landraces of rice collected  
and conserved from different states**

<b>States</b>	<b>No. of unique indigenous rice varieties</b>
1. Arunachal Pradesh	723
2. Assam	2419
3. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	21
4. Andhra Pradesh	3197
5. Bihar	863
6. Chhattisgarh	19098
7. Delhi	58
8. Goa	103
9. Gujarat	246
10. Haryana	12
11. Himachal Pradesh	236
12. Jammu and Kashmir	46
13. Jharkhand	225
14. Karnataka	464
15. Kerala	1306
16. Madhya Pradesh	4628
17. Maharashtra	454
18. Manipur	648
19. Meghalaya	359
20. Mizoram	96
21. Nagaland	511
22. Odisha	6416
23. Punjab	57
24. Rajasthan	238
25. Sikkim	46
26. Tamil Nadu	578
27. Tripura	367
28. Uttar Pradesh	805
29. Uttarakhand	412
30. West Bengal	422
31. Others	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>45107</b>

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