

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 902**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023

**POKKALI RICE**

902. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to include pokkali rice agriculture in the RKVY scheme to increase the infrastructure of paddy fields;
- (b) whether the Government has recommended the help of forest department to prevent bird attacks on paddy fields;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has taken any action in setting up of a board to prevent wastewater coming from the industrial sector to the paddy field;
- (d) whether the Government is making plans to get a global market for pokkali rice and its associated agricultural product prawns and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the pokkali rise cultivation would be linked with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to ensure the job security of pokkali farmers?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) to (c): Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) provides flexibility and autonomy to the States in planning and implementing State specific interventions across agriculture sectors as per their needs and priorities under this scheme. State Government of Kerala is implementing projects under RKVY to improve the infrastructure facilities in the paddy fields including Pokkali paddy fields. States can also devise, approve and implement projects best suitable to protect the paddy field from wastewater as well as from the attack of wild animals etc. under RKVY.
- (d) & (e): Government of Kerala is providing assistance for land preparation of fallow land paddy cultivation only through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) Scheme at present. Government of India has granted Geographical Indicator tag to Pokkali Rice. Pokkali rice producers have been facilitated to get registered with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) as an exporter for promotion of Pokkali rice and its value-added products with an objective to promote the Pokkali rice cultivation.

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