

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2615
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2nd AUGUST, 2022

DIVERSIFYING RICE-WHEAT CROPPING SYSTEM

2615. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN

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

- a) whether the Government concurs with the view that it is an uphill task to diversify the rice-wheat cropping system;
- b) if so, the steps that are proposed to be taken by the Government keeping in view the fact that the rice crop is the main culprit for stress on underground water resources in our country; and
- c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): Rice and Wheat are the major crops in India contributing under rice-wheat cropping system. Concerted efforts of the Central Government and states has led to record production of 314.51 million tonnes of total foodgrain production, out of which total rice & wheat production is 236.07 million tonnes (129.66 million tonnes of rice and 106.41 million tonnes of wheat), which is 75.06 percent of total foodgrain production (as per 3rd Advance Estimates). Government of India supplements the efforts of state governments to encourage diversified production of crops such as pulses, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, cotton & oilseeds under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and high value horticultural crops under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). Government of India also provide flexibility to the states for state specific needs/priorities under RKVY. The states can promote crop diversification under RKVY with the approval of State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) headed by Chief Secretary of the respective states. The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) has been implementing Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), in Original Green Revolution States viz; Haryana, Punjab and Western Uttar Pradesh since 2013-14 to divert the area of water intensive paddy crop to alternative crops, like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri cereals, cotton etc.
