

Increase in Pulses and Oilseeds Production

54. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to concentrate on increasing the output of oilseeds and pulses in future in view of the high level of import of edible oils and low level of availability of pulses;

(b) if so, the strategies to be followed; and

(c) whether research and development work on ICAR projects will be restructured to make all out effort to increase output of oilseeds and pulses ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government propose to adopt the following strategies in future :—

OILSEEDS

- (i) To increase the area under irrigated oilseed crops, extension of area through double cropping/sequential cropping/inter-cropping and replacement of crops of low economic value;
- (ii) Maximising yield levels by the use of quality seeds, adoption of improved package of practices, including plant protection measures;
- (iii) Development of red oil palm cultivation in Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- (iv) Restructuring the edible oil and oil seed production and marketing through National Dairy Development Board Projects; and
- (v) The National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board has been set up to bring about integrated development of oilseeds

production, processing and marketing and also for the development of the vegetable oils industry.

PULSES

- (i) Extension of pulses in irrigated area;
- (ii) Bringing additional area under short duration varieties of pulses in rice fallows by utilising the residual moisture in Rabi season;
- (iii) Cultivation of short duration varieties of moong and urad with irrigation in summer as a catch crop.
- (iv) Inter-cropping of Arhar in soya-bean, bajra, cotton, sugarcane and groundnut, both under irrigated and unirrigated conditions;
- (v) Maximising the yield levels by the use of improved seeds, adoption of improved package of practices including plant protection measures and price support; and
- (vi) Replacement of Khesri dal by gram, peas and other pulses.

(c) Yes, Sir. The research and development work on pulses and oilseeds has been reoriented from time to time keeping in view the changing needs of these groups of crops. During the 7th Plan the major thrust would be on increasing productivity, development of early maturing and disease resistant varieties and evolving area specific technology.

Farming Strategy for Drought-prone Areas in Bihar

55. SHRI SATYENDRA ARYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research has advised any specific strategy of farming for acute drought prone areas of Bihar like Palamau district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and