

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 603

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06TH FEBRUARY, 2024

NUTRITION SENSITIVE AGRICULTURE

603. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme or policy framed to implement Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated any programme in support with Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to promote Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (d): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has implemented a programme on “Nutri-Smart Village” to reach out to 75 villages across India through the network of All India Coordinated Research Project on Women in Agriculture. The objectives of the programme are promoting nutritional awareness, education and behavioural change in rural areas involving farm women and school children, harnessing traditional knowledge through the local recipe to overcome malnutrition and implementing nutrition-sensitive agriculture through homestead agriculture and Nutri-garden. Concerted efforts have led to the development of 150 biofortified varieties, including 132 field crop and 18 horticultural crop varieties, which are nutritionally rich. ICAR has also implemented Nutri-Sensitive Agricultural Resources and Innovations (NARI) Programme through Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs) for creating awareness on health and nutrition literacy. KVKs conducted on-farm trials, technology demonstrations on nutri rich biofortified varieties, trainings and various extension

activities under NARI programme. KVKs organized different training programmes and extension activities under different areas like promotion of nutrition garden, nutri-thali, value-addition, bio-fortified crops, etc.

Biofortified varieties are also promoted under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), which is being implemented for increasing the production of Pulses, Rice, Wheat, Coarse Cereals (Maize & Barley) and Nutri Cereals (Shree Anna). The Government of Indian has celebrated the year 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYM) to promote the Millets (Shree Anna) which have high nutritive value.

Under the Scheme “Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms” state governments efforts are supported to make available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied sector including Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture among farmers through farmers training, demonstrations, exposure visits, kisan mela, mobilization of Farmer Interest Groups, Women Food and Nutritional groups and setting-up of Farm School in the field of awardees farmers.

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has collaborated with government agencies, training institutions, and other partners in India to advance the agenda of nutrition-sensitive agriculture and agrifood systems in the country.
