

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:174

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2011

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government/Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has taken any steps/research work for improving seed varieties of various crops including pulses, cereals and oilseeds to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of such commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the allocation made during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government/ICAR is also taking any steps for the integrated development of agricultural technology of high yielding seeds and soil conservation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 174 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/03/2011 REGARDING "AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH"

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. A total 571 varieties comprising oilseeds (118), pulses (85) and cereals (368) have been notified during the last three years. Funds are not allocated only for improving seed varieties but for overall research which would include seed varieties but also research in areas such as biotic and abiotic stresses management, improving nutrient and water use efficiency, production technologies etc. The allocation of Plan funds for research in the Crop Science Division during last three years has been Rs.240.52 crores, Rs.293.50 crores and Rs.304.00 crores.

(c)&(d): Yes, Madam. Development and evaluation of location specific technologies and varieties are undertaken in order to standardize the relevant package of practices in respect of the high yielding, pest-resistant and disease-resistant varieties of pulses, oilseeds and cereals. Suitable research programmes are in progress in regard to the location-specific bio-engineering measures of soil and water conservation to prevent soil erosion in agricultural farms.

Short duration varieties such as mungbean (50-60 days), pigeonpea (130-140 days) and chickpea (90-100 days) have also been developed.