

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3335
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009
DROUGHT RESISTANT SEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Agricultural Universities/ICAR and other agencies have developed several varieties of crops/seeds which are drought resistant;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to popularize the use of such varieties?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) along with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) have developed several early maturing varieties of crops which have performed well under the moisture stress/drought conditions. Some of these varieties/hybrids: Wheat (PBW 527, HD 2888, HI1531, HI 1500, HD 8627); Barley (HBL 276, RD 2660, K 603); Rice (Vandana, Anjali, Dateswari, PNR-519, VL Dhan 208); Maize (Pusa Hybrid Makka-1, 2 and 5, Vivke-21, Vevek-23, HM-4); Sorghum (CSH15R, CSH19R, CSV-18); Pearl Millet (HHB 67 improved, GHB-757, GHB-538); Chickpea (RSG 888, RSG 963); Lathyrus (BioL212); Mothbean (CAZRI Moth 3); Horse Gram (AK21); Guar (RGC 936); Groundnut (JGN-3, K134, Kadir 6); Mustard (Pusa Bahar, JD-6, Shivani); Soyabean (NRC 7, JS 71-05). Such varieties are also available in other crops.

(c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Govts. produce the breeder seed of various varieties/hybrids including those of early drought tolerant varieties as per indent of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for further production of foundation and certified seeds for the use of farmers. ICAR and SAUs also conduct large number of frontline demonstrations for popularizing such varieties/hybrids. The various Institutes and SAUs also organize Kisan Melas, Kisan Goshties, radio talks etc. to popularize the varieties and hybrids. The Govt. of India has also launched National Food Security Mission for enhancing the production and productivity of major cereals (rice and wheat) and pulses.