

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3075

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011

SPREAD OF AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Agriculture Universities and Central Agricultural Universities set up/proposed to be set up in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has sufficient infrastructure to disseminate agricultural information with a view to highlighting innovative practices, scientific research and development in the agriculture sector amongst the farmers in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to acquaint farmers with the relevant and latest information; and
- (e) the details of agricultural technologies being provided at affordable rates to the farm producers in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) The list of State Agricultural Universities, Central Agricultural University, Deemed to be Universities and Central Universities with Agriculture Faculty is given as Annexure-I. The establishment of a Central Agricultural University (CAU) in Bundelkhand region at Jhansi has been approved.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) & (d): A Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms" popularly known as Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) scheme is under implementation in 604 districts of 28 states and 3 UTs of the country, with an objective to support State Governments efforts of revitalization of the extension system and making available the latest agriculture and allied technologies in different agro-climatic conditions through extension activities such as farmers training, demonstrations, exposure visits, Kisan Melas, mobilization of farmers groups and setting up of Farm Schools. Besides there are Extension/Transfer of Technology Divisions in all ICAR institutes and Agriculture Universities. ICAR has also setup a network of 600 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country to assess, refine and demonstrate agricultural technologies; to provide training to farmers; and to make them aware on latest agricultural technologies through extension programmes.

(e) During the year 2010-11, fifty two varieties/hybrids of crops including major crops of rice, wheat, maize, pearl millet and pulses have been released for cultivation in different agro-climatic regions of the country. During the year 629 tonnes of nucleus seed, 9554 tonnes of breeder seeds, 7745 tonnes of foundation seed, 3471 tonnes of certified seed and 10443 tonnes of truthful seed were produced and made available to the producers. A total of 81,560 semen dosed of genetically superior Murrah buffalo bulls were disseminated to the farmers involved in buffalo develop programme. Eighty varieties of horticultural crops (Fruits-9, Plantation crops-9, Spices and Seed spices-22, Vegetables-20, Tuber crops-17, Ornamental crops-07); 07 diagnostic kits; 9 processing technologies; 8 value added products were developed for farm producers. A power operated, pneumatically controlled bud chipping machine has been developed that have double chipping capacity than that of pedal operated machine. An Eight row power operated rice transplanter has been developed. The GIS based soil fertility maps, were prepared for 500 districts spread over 21 states of India for the benefit of farmers. Some of the other technologies provided to farmers over the years are given in Annexure-II.