

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:195
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
PRODUCTION OF PULSES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to involve the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the agricultural universities for increasing the production of pulses in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, institute-wise;
- (c) the incentives proposed to be provided to farmers to adopt modern techniques for increasing the production of pulses; and
- (d) the funds earmarked during the current Five Year Plan in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Government of India (GOI) has actively involved Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR) and National Centre of Integrated Pest Management (NCIPM)- institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for increasing the production of pulses in the country under the National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses) programme. Under the programme, GOI has provided funds for (i) Strengthening of breeder seed production and training infrastructure; (ii) Evaluation and Production of cytoplasmic genetic male sterility (CGMS) based hybrid for enhancement of productivity and stability of yield in pigeonpea; (iii) Organization of Front Line Demonstrations of pulses; and (iv) Increasing chick pea and pigeon pea production through intensive application of Integrated Pest Management. Besides this, Four All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) on Pulses mostly situated in State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) are involved in conducting of FLDs and imparting training programmes. ICAR has also organized 6000 technology demonstrations on pulses involving KVKs in 11 major pulses growing states during 2010-11.

To adopt the modern techniques of pulses by the farmers, GOI provides the assistance for seed production, seed distribution, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Herbicides, Improved farm implements, assistance for increased water use efficiency through distribution of sprinklers, pipeline for carrying water to the fields and pumpsets etc. Besides, training of farmers and extension workers are also organised for transfer of latest production technology.

In addition, to demonstrate the production and protection technology of pulses among the farmers on their fields through compact area approach, Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) is implemented in the country with 1000 units (one unit of 1000 ha each) covering one million hectare area of pulses during 2010-11 and 2011-12.

Further, a programme of Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses Villages in Rainfed Areas is also being implemented in 11 major pulses growing States in the country to provide support for in- situ moisture conservation, accelerated pulses production programme with inclusion of minikits & pests surveillance and market linked extension support through Small Farmers Agriculture Consortium (SFAC) for framework of Farmers Producer Groups(FPOs) & extending end to end support to the farmers for ensuring better economic return to the farmers. The government has also increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for kharif and rabi pulses. These incentives will help the farmers to adopt modern techniques for increasing pulse production at farm level.

The allocation of plan funds to ICAR research on pulses during current Five Year Plan has been Rs. 132.44 crores and for pulses promotion schemes in major pulse growing states in Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has been Rs.3373.11 crores.