

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6585

ANSWERED ON:16.05.2012

RESEARCH BY BARC IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has received any representation to work in Gujarat by using atomic energy in agriculture seed and agriculture sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work is likely to be started and completed; and
- (c) the details of the research work being done in this direction in Gujarat?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a)to(c) Yes, Sir. A representation from Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Parshottam Rupala, was received in this regard and a reply has already been furnished to the Hon'ble MP on 18.2.2011.

BARC has active collaboration with Directorate of Groundnut Research (DRG), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Junagadh and Junagadh Agricultural University. Five groundnut varieties namely TAG-24, somnath, TG-26, TG-37a and TPG-41 have been released for cultivation in Gujarat through such collaboration. Besides, recently released varieties like TG-38, TLG-45 and TG-51 are also popular among Gujarat farmers.

New groundnut breeding lines of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) having resistance to disease are being evaluated by Agricultural Research Station, Talod, Gujarat. The Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (BRNS) under DAE is funding new research projects for induced mutagenesis in groundnut to develop stem rot resistance and aflatoxin resistance in which BARC is actively collaborating with agriculture universities at Junagadh, Anand and Talod.

BARC is also supplying breeder seed of Trombay groundnut varieties every year to agriculture universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Gujarat State Seed Corporation, National Seed Corporation, private companies and some farmers. They in turn carry out further seed multiplication and are distributing seeds of BARC varieties to Gujarat farmers. Feedback from farmers of Kutch-Bhuj, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Amreli, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Surat, Bama, Bhavnagar, Vadodara and near Gandhinagar is highly encouraging. Farmers are reaping yields upto 5000 kg/ha using these varieties as compared to the state average of 2000 kg/ha.