

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4120
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2012
RESEARCH ON SEEDS
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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 along with the allocation made for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government/ICAR is also taking steps for the integrated development of agricultural technology of high yielding seeds and soil conservation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. A total of 211 varieties comprising oilseeds (56), pulses (59) and cereals (96) have been notified during the last three years based on the research work conducted in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects of ICAR located in State Agricultural University (Annexure-I). Funds are allocated for research towards development of improved seed varieties/hybrids besides addressing issues in 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 of ICAR during last three years and the current year are Rs.304.00 crores, Rs.366.00 crores, Rs.392.77 crores and Rs.460.00 crores respectively.

(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-tolerant and disease-resistant varieties of pulses, oilseeds and cereals. Location-specific measures of soil and water conservation have been developed to prevent soil erosion in agricultural farms. ICAR has developed several location-specific, cost effective, improved technologies like varieties/hybrids, crop diversification, resource conservation technologies (zero tillage, bed planting, laser leveling, system of rice intensification), soil reclamation/amelioration measures, integrated soil-water-nutrient management, water harvesting and conservation, participatory watershed models, micro-irrigation, integrated farming system, integrated pests/diseases management measures, etc., which have boosted the agricultural production in the country.