

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3822
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
RESEARCH PROJECTS IN GUJARAT .
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the research and development projects undertaken by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) during the last three years in Gujarat State;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated in this regard;
- (c) whether BARC has undertaken any research in the field of Agriculture in collaboration with various universities in the State, including Navsari Agriculture University; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Research & Developmental activities pertaining to the activities of Department of Atomic Energy are being pursued in various universities / academic institutions in different states of the country by sponsoring R&D projects through the Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (BRNS). As a part of this programme since 2005, 41 R&D projects were sponsored in the Gujarat State. Out of these, 16 projects were sponsored during the last three years. Besides R&D projects, BRNS also provides grant for conducting national / international seminars conferences across the country. In Gujarat State, in the last three years 21 conferences were provided grant by BRNS.

(b) For the BRNS sponsored R&D projects in Gujarat State, an amount of `130 lakh was granted during the last three years.

(c)&(d) Studies on radiation based induced mutagenesis for crop improvements along with conventional breeding have been underway at BARC, Mumbai since several decades. Using both mutation and recombination breeding in groundnut, BARC has developed 14 groundnut varieties and are released and notified for commercial cultivation across the country. As a part of this, five varieties namely TAG 24, Somnath, TG 26, TG 37A and TPG 41 were released for Gujarat through active collaboration with Directorate of Groundnut Research (DGR), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Junagadh and Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. Besides, recently released varieties like TG 38, TLG 45 and TG 51 (released elsewhere) are also popular among Gujarat farmers. New groundnut breeding lines of BARC having disease resistance are evaluated by Agricultural Research Station, Talod, Gujarat. Recently, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari has undertaken evaluation of advanced breeding lines of groundnut at four regional research stations. BARC through BRNS is also funding new projects of groundnut research like induced mutagenesis for stem rot resistance with Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh. Further, BARC is actively collaborating with Agricultural Universities at Junagadh and Anand for different objectives.