

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6652

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013

CROP DIVERSIFICATION

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken several steps to encourage the farmers in crop diversification in order to preserve biodiversity of land and to prevent over-exploitation of soil and water in the agriculture sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the guidelines issued in this regard;
- (c) the incentives given by the Government for the promotion of crop diversification in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the major initiatives taken by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the Agriculture Technology Management Agencies in the field of crop diversification during the said period; and
- (e) the benefits accrued to the farmers as a result of the above initiatives in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Government of India is implementing various crop development schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millet Promotion (INSIMP), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Technology Mission on Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) etc. in the states for promoting various crops including pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, fruits and vegetables suited to different agro-ecologies to avoid over-exploitation of soil and water. The state-wise allocation and release under these schemes for the last three years and current year is annexed (Annexure- I, II, III & IV).

An amount of Rs. 500 crores has been provided in the budget 2013-14 for crop diversification in original Green Revolution States of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh to promote technological innovation and to encourage farmers to choose alternate crops for sustainability of agriculture.

(d) & (e): Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) conduct Front Line Demonstrations of various crops across the country to disseminate improved production technologies on farmers' field for enhancing crop productivity and encouraging the farmers for adoption of crops.