GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1191
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
RESEARCH ON SOYABEAN
Thakor Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any research on soyabean to find out the substance which could be helpful to farmers to produce other crops immediately after the farming of soyabean; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) In order to ensure profitable yield of soybean and that of subsequent crops in specific agro-climatic situation, remunerative soybean based cropping systems and integrated nutrient management practices have been developed by the Directorate of Soybean Research (DSR), Indore, Wheat, chickpea, mustard, potato etc., are being grown successfully after the harvest of soybean with application of recommended doses of nutrients to respective crops.

Soybean is a leguminous crop and legumes have long been recognized and valued as "soil building" crops. Soybean fixes nitrogen from the atmosphere and adds nitrogen to the soil, increases soil reserves of organic matter and soil aeration, improves soil structure and soil water-holding capacity and makes soil easier to till and thus maintains general soil health status. In addition, the tillage requirement for growing subsequent crop happens to be minimum which in turn reduces the cost of cultivation and enhances the possibilities of timely sowing.

Results of long term fixed plots experiments (2004-2012) conducted on the management systems of soybean-wheat and soybean-chickpea cropping systems revealed that the productivity of soybean, wheat, chickpea and that of the cropping systems was maintained over the years under application of recommended level of nutrients applied to both the crops. The net returns and benefit cost ratio also showed an increasing trend over the years. The details are presented in Annexure-I.