

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:253

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Hooda Shri Deepender Singh;Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the budget allocation made by the Government for Research and Development activities in agricultural education and allied sectors during each of the last three years;
- (b) the criteria laid down for educational institutions availing such funding;
- (c) the notable achievements made by these institutions in Research and Development activities during the above period; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the government to ensure that the benefits of Research and Development reaches the farmers in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 253 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27/08/2013 REGARDING "RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION"

(a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research made following budget allocation for research and development activities in agriculture and allied sectors, including agricultural education, in the last three years:

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
2010-11	2521.76
2011-12	2850.00
2012-13	2520.00

As agriculture is a State subject, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) provides partial financial support to Agricultural Universities under the scheme 'Strengthening & Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India' and assists their research and education programmes. Out of the total allocation given above, the financial support provided to the State Agricultural Universities, Deemed- to-be-Universities and Central Universities having faculty of agriculture and allied sciences during the last three years is given below:

Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2010-11	446.00
2011-12	536.89 (including special grant of Rs.50.00 crores to Kerala Veterinary & Animal Science University)
2012-13	413.50 + 120.00

Allocation in 2012-13, based on Budget announcement.

The financial support provided to the Central Agricultural University, Imphal through Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) in the last three years is as under:

Year Amount (Rs. in crore)

2010-11	80.00
2011-12	100.01
2012-13	84.99

(b) The financial assistance is provided to the State Agricultural Universities, Deemed-to-be- Universities and Central Universities having faculty of agriculture and allied sciences.

(c) The Agricultural Universities have rendered a great service to the nation in the field of Higher Agricultural Education, Research & Extension. Their contribution to the agricultural growth in India is note-worthy. State Agriculture Universities in liaison with ICAR have developed several location specific varieties, cost effective technologies (suiting soil and climate) like crop diversification, resource conservation technologies (zero tillage, bed planting, laser leveling, Systems of Rice Intensification), soil reclamation/amelioration measures, integrated soil-water- nutrient management, water harvesting and conservation, participatory watershed models, micro irrigation and integrated farming system. Their focus has also been on floriculture, improved farm mechanization and post-harvest technologies and agro-forestry models, improved technology for marine, inland and ornamental fishes to boost agricultural production and productivity in the country. All these have contributed towards achieving food grain production to the extent of over 259 million tonnes during 2011-12.

(d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has established 634 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country under the administrative control of different host organizations including 431 under State/Central Agricultural Universities, 51 under ICAR Institutes, 99 under NGOs, 35 under State Governments and remaining 18 under other educational institutions/Other Organizations. The activities and programmes of KVKs include testing and demonstration of agriculture technologies in farmers' field, training of farmers and extension personnel and creation of awareness on improved technology through various extension programme. Besides, the KVKs produce seeds and planting materials for its availability to farmers.