

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:765
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013
PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
Dias Dr. Charles;Punia Shri P.L.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has any scheme to provide financial assistance and encouragement to universities and research institutions for promoting research in the development of high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the universities and institutions which received the financial assistance during the period 2010-13;
- (d) the percentage of Gross Domestic Product spending on research and development in agriculture during the last three years; and
- (e) whether the Union Government proposes to increase the allocation for Research and Development in agriculture and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is providing financial assistance to universities and institutes through All India Coordinated Wheat & Barley Improvement Programme and All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Programme for promoting research to develop high yielding varieties of wheat and rice, respectively.

Besides, for maintaining and upgrading quality and relevance of higher agricultural education, a centrally sponsored plan scheme "Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India", is being implemented. The scheme strives to plan, undertake, aid, promote and coordinate agricultural education in the country with an aim to enhance the quality and relevance of higher agricultural education to address the emerging challenges in the agriculture sector. Catalytic financial support is provided to agricultural universities (AUs), for strengthening of infrastructure, strengthening of curriculum delivery and examination system, personality development, capacity building of faculty and non faculty, Niche Area of Excellence, Experiential Learning modules, Rural Awareness Work Experience, as well as various other facilities by providing development grant.

(b) & (c): The statement on financial assistance for undertaking research on wheat and rice during the period 2010-13 to the Universities and institutions is at Annexure-I.

Following Institutes / Directorates also undertake research to develop high yielding varieties of wheat/rice with the financial support from ICAR:

Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal. # Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. # Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, Almora. # Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack. # Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad.

The details of grant released to the Universities toward their strengthening and development under the Plan scheme "Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India" during 2010-13 is at Annexure-II.

(d) According to data on agriculture Research and Education (treated as R&D) for states compiled by RBI and for the Union Government by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), agriculture R&E expenditure was 0.7018 % of GDP agriculture including fishery and forestry at current prices during 2010-11. R&E intensity declined to 0.6589 in year 2011-12 and further dropped to 0.5752 (provisional) in year 2012-13. Details are in Annexure-III.

(e) Yes, Madam. The Planning Commission has raised allocation for Department of Agricultural Research and Education from Rs. 12588/- crore during 11th Plan at 2007-08 prices to Rs 25553/- crore during 12th Plan. However, this includes R&D expenditure of Central Government only. Information on R&E proposed for 12th Plan for various states is not available. However, data available for 1st Year of 12th Plan i.e. 2012-13 on agriculture R&E show lower growth than growth in GDP Agriculture at current prices.