

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2706

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014

ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER NICRA

Birla Shri Om;Kataria Shri Rattan Lal;Kumar Shri Kunwar Sarvesh ;Mullappally Shri Ramachandran;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production and productivity of foodgrains including pulses has declined in the non-resilient farming areas including hill and mountain leading to climate change and other antropogenic impact in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, crop-wise;

(c) whether the National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) is under implementation to promote climate resilient farming practices across the country and if so, the details thereof along with the details of achievements made and ongoing/proposed research projects thereunder;

(d) whether the Government proposes to depute and incentivise the agriculture scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for research on latest agricultural technology in rural areas in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of policy/action plans initiated by the Government to make farming climate resilient in the country including mountain areas during the 12th Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. There is no area or crop specific estimation on production and productivity of foodgrains including pulses available for the non-resilient farming areas including hills and mountains of the country. However, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has made vulnerability assessment on major food crops in different production zones to climatic variability under the 'National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture' (NICRA). The study revealed that around 46.0 million ha of agriculture lands spread over 122 districts in 11 States in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid regions of the country may suffer from extreme weather events.

(c) Yes, Madam. National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) is in operation since 2011 aimed at enhancing climate resilience of Indian agriculture through Strategic Research, Technology Demonstration, Capacity Building and Sponsored/Competitive Grant Projects. The research on adaptation and mitigation covers crops, livestock, fisheries and natural resource management. The salient achievements made are given in Annexure.

(d) Agricultural scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) are already engaged in developing cost effective improved agricultural technologies in rural areas in farmers' participatory mode to increase productivity and profitability of farming community through its various research institutions including KVKs (Krishi Vigyan Kendras) and All India Coordinated Research Projects located at various SAUs in the country.

(e) The Government has made operational the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) from the current year (2014-15) throughout the country including mountain areas. Climate resilient interventions have been embedded and mainstreamed into Missions/Programmes / Schemes of Dept. of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) through a process of restructuring and convergence. The NMSA as a programmatic intervention aims at making agriculture more productive, sustainable, remunerative and climate resilient by promoting location specific integrated/composite farming system; soil and moisture conservation measures; comprehensive soil health management; effective water management practices and mainstreaming rainfed technologies.