

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1114
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2020**

“MoU with UK in Crop Science”

1114. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has achieved the various aims and objectives laid down during formalizing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of UK in Crop Science;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the time by which such aims and objectives are likely to be achieved by the Government;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to sign such MoUs with other countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, country-wise; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, EARTH SCIENCE AND HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a)& (b) Yes sir. To achieve the aims and objectives of the MoU under consideration, thirteen institutions (7 institutions from UK and 6 institutions from India) have come together and formally recorded their intent to establish joint India-UK partnership in crop sciences. The agreement was signed on 21/01/2020. Ten Indian Postdoctoral Fellows are being supported per year for three successive calendar years starting from 2020. The partnership is on enhanced research and knowledge exchange with a focus on developing Resilience in food security, Plant-pathogen/pest interactions, Wheat pre-breeding and Computational Biology.

(c) to (e) No such proposal is under active consideration of the Department.
