

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI TARIQ ANWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR)
is implementing National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) in the country.

(b) The details are as follows:-

Sanctioned Budget	:	USD 250 million
Share of the World Bank	:	USD 200 million
Share of Government of India	:	USD 50 million
Date of approval	:	April 18, 2006
Effective Date	:	September 18, 2006
Date of termination	:	June 30, 2014

Objectives of the NAIP

- To build the critical capacity of the ICAR as a catalyzing agent for management of change in the Indian NARS.
- To promote 'production to consumption systems research' in priority areas/themes to enhance productivity, nutrition, profitability, income and employment.
- To improve livelihood security of rural people living in the selected disadvantaged regions through technology led innovation systems, encompassing the wider process of social and economic change covering all stakeholders.
- To build capacity to undertake basic and strategic research in frontier areas to meet challenges in technology development in the immediate and predictable future.

Development of hybrid varieties of rice

962. DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual rice production in the country *vis-a-vis* rice produced through hybrid seeds;

(b) whether Government has any plan to develop hybrid varieties of rice with improved productivity and acceptable cooking quality requirements;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the fresh steps taken by Government to exploit hybrid rice potential to raise country's rice production especially in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR) : (a) The area under hybrid rice in the country is around 2.3 million hectares (2012), which is approximately 5% of the total rice area. The contribution of hybrids rice to the total production (104.40 million tonnes) during 2012-13 was around 8.72-9.77 million tonnes, with the fact that an additional yield of about 1.5-1.8 tonnes/ha is obtained from hybrids.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All the hybrids, developed since 2000, are thoroughly evaluated including cooking quality traits and only qualifying hybrids are released for commercial cultivation. Rice hybrids, in medium slender (MS) grain category, similar to the popular variety Samba Mahsuri, are also developed and released for commercial cultivation in the country. DRRH-3 from Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), Hyderabad and CORH4, from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), are the public sector hybrids in this category.

(d) Not Applicable.

(e) Government of India is promoting hybrid rice production through various schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI).

In the State of Madhya Pradesh, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (JNKVV), Jabalpur is actively working on the development of high yielding rice hybrids for the state. It has already released three hybrids viz., JR H-4, JR H-5 and JR H-8. Besides this, hybrids developed by other organizations viz., DRRH-3 (DRR, Hyderabad), PA6201, US382, 27P31, RH-1531, KPH-199 (Private sector hybrids) are also recommended for commercial cultivation in the State.

During Twelfth Plan, research on Hybrid Rice is being strengthened by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through a special consortia research project on hybrid crops.

Supply of fake Bt. cotton seeds

963. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Government is aware that Bt. cotton farmers in Karnataka suffered huge loss due to fake seeds;
- (b) if so, whether Government has received any report in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has taken any steps to help the affected farmers and punish the culprit; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (e) The Karnataka Government has reported about supply of fake seeds of Bt. cotton varieties viz., Kanaka, Niki Plus and Jackpot in the districts of Belgaum, Haveri, Chitradurga, Davangere, Dharwad, Bellary and Gadag in 2013-14. The State Government constituted a field inspection team with the scientists of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad to investigate the matter. The Team reported that compared to other Bt. cotton varieties, these Bt. cotton varieties are found to be more susceptible to infestation of mind bug and midge fly. Joint Survey teams have been constituted by the State Government to assess the extent of crop damage for relief to the farmers.

Fishermen Welfare Fund

964. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of Fishermen Welfare Fund;