| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Maharashtra | Rice | Jaya | - | - |
| | Groundnut | JL-776 | - | - |
| Meghalaya | Maize | DA 61 A | French bean | Naga local |
| Punjab | Rice | Pusa Basmati 1121 | Wheat | PBW 621 |
| Tamil Nadu | Rice | CB05022 | - | |
| Uttar Pradesh | Maize | Seed tech- 2324 | Mustard | NRCHB- 506 |
| Uttarakhand | Rice coarse | PD-19 | Wheat | V6-UP-2843 |
| | Basmati rice | Pusa Basmati 1121 | - | - |

**Restructuring of ICAR**

2945. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is holding any consultations to restructure the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to make the organization stronger in the domain of agricultural research, considering its contribution to national economy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present to restructure the functioning of the ICAR. As and when the need of such restructuring will emerge, the Competent Authority in the DARE/ ICAR will take appropriate decision in the matter.

ICAR serves the technology and information needs of over half of the Indian population that lives in rural areas and predominantly cultivates small and marginal farms. With 102 ICAR research institutes, 11 Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes (ATARIs) and 73 agricultural universities spread across the country, National Agricultural Research System (NARS) is the largest national agricultural research and educational systems in the world. ICAR together with her partner institutions in National Agricultural Research System (NARS) has developed a number of technologies in various fields of Agriculture including, crop production, horticulture, dairying, poultry and fisheries sciences as a result of which the country experienced, green revolution, white revolution, yellow revolution and the pink revolution. A total 4057 high-yielding varieties/hybrids of

various field crops for different agro-ecological regions of the country have been released during 1969 till Dec 2015. During the period, 2014 till April 2016 alone, the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) has developed/notified 307 high yielding varieties of field crops. Through the adoption of the improved varieties and the agro techniques, the productivity of crops including food grains, rapeseed-mustard and cotton have registered increases of 2-4 folds since 1950-51. India is now the second largest producer of wheat and rice in the world and is amongst the top exporters of rice. India is first in the world to develop hybrid cultivars of grain pearl millet, pigeon pea, castor and safilower, and second to develop hybrid cultivars of rice and sorghum. Incorporation of resistance to pests and tolerance to abiotic stresses in high yielding background have enabled insulation of crop plants against these stresses and thus provided stability in food production and food security. Development of short duration varieties of rice, sorghum, cotton, pigeon pea, chickpea, greengram, blackgram etc. has opened up avenues for multiple cropping systems and enhanced cropping intensity. Improved varieties of sugarcane, wheat, rice, maize, sorghum, groundnut, mustard etc. developed, under NARS have been used for commercial cultivation in many other countries.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is alive towards the need to adapt to the changing Agricultural Research requirements of the country. Keeping this in view, committees under the chairmanship of eminent scientists have been constituted during past 4 decades to suggest measures to further strengthen the organisation. Gajendra Gadkar committee (1972) recommended strengthening of the linkage between ICAR and Ministry of Agriculture, and consequently the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) was established. On the recommendations of G V K Rao committee (1988) on strengthening inter institutional linkages, all ICAR institutions were put under the control of 8 Subject Matter Divisions headed by the respective Deputy Director General assisted by Assistant Director Generals. Based on the recommendations of the Johl Committee (1995) a number of reforms were introduced to provide functional autonomy to the scientists on all research related matters. A number of new research programmes in the strategic areas were initiated. Based on the recommendation of the Mashelkar committee (2005) initiatives were taken to improve the research base, ICAR-Industry interface and Scientist-Entrepreneur tie-up. The National Agricultural Innovation Project and the National Fund for Basic & Strategic Research were initiated apart from creating the Agrinnovate India Ltd to improve ICAR- Industry linkages. ICAR has also developed technical collaborations with various national and international research institutions to address the present and future research requirements of the country. All these initiatives have paid rich dividends and as a result the country has been able to produce 252.23 MT of food grains (235.17 MT cereals & 17.06 MT Pulses), 25.90 MT Oilseeds and 346.72 MT Sugarcane

besides producing more than 283 million tonnes of horticultural produce during 2015-16. Steady increase in breeder seed production has resulted in enhanced supply of quality seeds to the farmers. The country has also made phenomenal progress in various spheres of animal and fisheries sciences also. The milk production of the country touched a record 155.5 million tons (2015-16). The egg production also increased to 82.92 billion (2015-16). Similarly, the total fish production in the country has also increased to 10.7 million tones (2015-16) all of which have seen several fold increases during past 3-4 decades. These achievements in the agricultural sector are attributable in large measure to the technology-led improvements in agricultural productivity.

**Drought situation in the country**

2946. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of drought situation in the country;

(b) how many Mandals/districts have been declared as drought affected, State-wise;

(c) the details of financial and other assistance sought by States and help extended by Central Government, State-wise; and

(d) the financial assistance, if released to any State under NDRF or SDRF, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (d) No memorandum has been received from any State regarding damages caused due to drought occurring in the Financial Year 2016-17. The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government, in accordance with established procedure.

The State-wise Central share of SDRF released during 2016-17 is given in the Statement.