

rich varieties/hybrids are CR Dhan 310 and DRR Dhan 45, with high protein and high zinc content, respectively in rice; Quality Protein Maize hybrids, Vivek QPM9 and HQPM5; Indian mustard variety Pusa Mustard 31 with low erucic acid in oil and low glucosinolates content in seed meal; high iron lentil variety, PusaVaibhav; trypsin inhibitor free soybean genotypes, NRC 101 and NRC 102; Ratan, Prateek and Mahateora varieties of lathyrus with low ODAP content and zinc rich varieties of wheat, WB 02 and HPBW 01 are developed and released for cultivation in different agro-climatic conditions.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. Most of the countries have their own food nutritional database.

Issuance of SHCs to farmers in Odisha

1294. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Soil Health Cards (SHCs) issued to the farmers in Odisha till date; and

(b) by when the remaining SHCs will be issued to the farmers of Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Government of Odisha have issued 2374233 Soil Health Cards (SHCs) in the 1st Cycle *i.e.* 2015-17 as on 23.12.2017 and 131955 SHCs for the 2nd Cycle. All the farmers in the second 2 year cycle will be covered by March, 2019.

Promoting salt tolerant varieties of crops

1295. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether salinity levels have increased in the coastal States of the country on account of rising sea levels and whether this is a cause of concern to agriculture;

(b) if so, the area of land rendered unfit for agricultural purposes due to rise in salinity in these coastal States during the last five years; and

(c) the steps Government has taken to promote salt tolerant varieties of crops in general, with special reference to rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) The coastal salinity varies spatially and temporally. Salinity level drops down during rainy season due to leaching of soluble salts and it increases during non-rainy season. As per