GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3364
ANSWERED ON- 01/04/2022

DEVELOPMENT OF HYBRID SEEDS

3364. DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed high yielding hybrid seeds requiring less water as many parts of the country face drought every year;

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

(c) the details of the work done by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during the last three years for developing high yielding hybrid seeds requiring less water and the quantity of such seeds produced during last three years; and

(d) the response of Government thereon?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) led National Agricultural Research System (NARS) has developed 1956 high yielding varieties/ hybrids of 80 field crops since 2014 which include 173 less water requiring varieties/ hybrids of cereals (94), oilseeds (14), pulses (25), fiber crops (8), forages (12) and sugarcane (20).

(c) & (d): Total of 56 less water requiring varieties/hybrids of field crops have been developed during 2018-19 to 2020-21, comprising of 31 of Cereals (10 of Rice, 7 of Wheat, 3 of Maize, 2 of Sorghum and 9 of Millets); 6 of Oilseeds (2 of Soybean, 2 of Groundnut, 1 of Sesame, 1 of Indian mustard); 10 of Pulses (1 of Urd bean, 4 of Pigeon pea, 1 of Horse gram, 2 of Chickpea, 1 of Lentil and 1 of Faba bean); 2 of Forages (1 each of Fescue grass and Setaria grass); 2 of cotton and 5 of Sugarcane.

During last 3 years, 6975.32 quintals (2018-19: 2446.7 q, 2019-20: 2204.45 q and 2020-21: 2324.17 q) breeder seed of less water requiring varieties was produced and supplied to various public and private seed production agencies for downstream multiplication as foundation and certified seed by ICAR. A total of 74,43,879 q of certified/ quality seeds of high yielding varieties/ hybrids (including stress tolerant) was made available during the years 2019-20 to 2020-21.

*****