

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1938
ANSWERED ON- 23/12/2022

SUSTAINABLE SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

1938. SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:

Will the MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is focusing on developing sustainable and scientific agricultural practices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the hi-tech hubs and custom hiring centres set up in last five years, State-wise; and
- (d) the total expenditure incurred on setting up these facilities and their maintenance in the last three years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/ Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) is focusing on Sustainable Scientific Agricultural Practices through development of sustainable crop varieties, their managements and scientific agricultural practices. ICAR has developed 2122 high yielding crop varieties during 2014-2022 which are resistant/ tolerant to biotic and abiotic stresses, climate resilient and higher grain yields. ICAR, under the scheme National Innovation on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA), developed sustainable agriculture practices those include Prominent resilient cropping systems; Location specific *in-situ* moisture conservation measures; Planting methods such as zero till, raised bed planting, cropping intensification with harvested water; and Integrated nutrient management practice.

Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) under the Scheme: 'Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)' promotes custom hiring centres, created hubs for hi-tech and high value farm equipments, distributed various agricultural equipments and created awareness among the stake holders. The rainfed area development program under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) under DA&FW works to make rainfed agriculture more productive, sustainable, remunerative and climate resilient. Besides, DA&FW also operates schemes like Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana to improve on-farm water use efficiency and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) to improve soil health.

(c) and (d): In the last five years, 21895 custom hiring centers and 415 hi-tech hubs were established by ICAR and DA&FW.

ICAR under NICRA made a total expenditure of Rs 1.840 crores and DA&FW under SMAM scheme made an expenditure of Rs 2863.20 crore during last three years.
