

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1778
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28/12/2018

**SETTING UP OF CENTRAL POTATO RESEARCH SUB-DIVISION
UNDER CPRI AT HASSAN IN KARNATAKA**

1778. **SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Karnataka requested for establishment of Central Potato Research Sub-Division under CPRI, Shimla at Somanahalli Kaval, Hassan (Karnataka);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has considered and given approval for the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Recently Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy has requested Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Shri Radha Mohan Singh for the establishment of Central Potato Research Sub-Division at Somanahalli, Hassan District, Karnataka under ICAR-CPRI, Shimla.
- (c) Decision for the establishment of Central Potato Research Sub-Division under CPRI, Shimla at Somanahalli Kaval, Hassan (Karnataka) has not been taken.

(d) ICAR-CPRI has 7 regional research stations and 25 AICRP Potato Centres located in different agro-climatic zones. As far as Hassan is concerned, there are two AICRP Centres already located in Karnataka, one in UAS, Dharwar and other in Hassan District itself which is working under University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot.

All the activities related to potato crop management like development of new varieties, seed production, processing, agronomy and cropping system, nutrient water management are already being looked after by above two centres of AICRP in Karnataka. Further, for late blight management as emphasized by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, ICAR-CPRI has developed indo-blight cast forecasting model which is a PAN-INDIA model and is working for forecasting of the disease in Hassan area as well. Besides all the varieties having late blight resistance are being rigorously tested in Karnataka centres of AICRP for their performance in recent years, one such variety named Kufri Himalini has shown good performance in the area for disease resistance and crop yield.

Therefore, in this instant case in the light of above points, centres at Hassan and Dharwar are fully capable of catering to the research needs of potato to benefit farmers of Karnataka state and as such there is no need to open one more centre in the same Agro Ecological Zone.
