

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1459
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15/12/2023

AUGMENTING PRODUCTION OF COARSE GRAINS

1459. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

- (a) whether Government is taking measures to augment the production of coarse grains in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the progress made in this respect;
- (d) the benefits realised thereof; and
- (e) if not, the proposed measures to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (e) : In order to promote production of coarse cereals, Government of India is implementing Coarse Cereals development programme under National Food Security Mission- Coarse Cereals to accelerate the production and productivity of coarse cereals like maize & barley. Maize development programme is being implemented in 237 districts of 26 states, 2 Union territories and barley in 39 districts of 4 states. Under NFSM assistance is given to the farmers through the states/UTs for interventions like cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices, demonstrations on cropping system, production & distribution of certified seeds of newly released varieties/hybrids, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management techniques, improved farm implements/tools/resource conservation machineries, water saving devices, capacity building of farmers through training. The Mission also provide support to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) & State Agriculture Universities (SAUs)/ Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for technology back stopping and transfer of technology back stopping and transfer of technology to the farmers. During the year 2023-24, Research &

Development project titled ‘Maize research for sustainable ethanol production in India’ of ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research (IIMR) has been approved under NFSM for 3 years with a total outlay of Rs. 532.00 lakhs. Further, project titled ‘Upscaling maize-based silage value chain in Punjab and Haryana’ of ICAR-IIMR has been approved under NFSM for 3 years with a total outlay of Rs. 373.90 lakhs. In addition, the states have the flexibility to take up maize development programme under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in the area of 50-100 km around distilleries to use maize as feed stock for production of ethanol. The production of coarse cereals (maize & barley) has increased from 293.48 lakh tonnes during 2018-19 to 399.98 lakh tonnes during 2022-23 which accounts for 36.3% increase.
