

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3865
ANSWERED ON- 04/04/2025

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURE

3865. SHRI RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA:

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

- (a) the total budget allocation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and allocation to research and development in agriculture as a percentage in the last five years;
- (b) the amount of Research and Development (R&D) funds in agriculture sector that have come from public and private sector over the past five years and also the steps taken to encourage private sector R&D; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) saw a marginal increase of just 0.7 per cent in Financial Year 2024, if so, the steps being taken to increase the R&D allocations?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a): The requisite details of budget allocation is detailed as under: -

| (Rs. in crores) | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|---|
| Year | *Budget allocation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare | Budget allocation of Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) | % of funds allocated to DARE compared to total budget allocated to Agriculture Ministry |
| 2020-21 | 1,42,762.35 | 7762.38 | 5.44 |
| 2021-22 | 1,31,531.19 | 8513.62 | 6.47 |
| 2022-23 | 1,32,513.62 | 8658.89 | 6.53 |
| 2023-24 | 1,25,035.79 | 9876.60 | 7.90 |
| 2024-25 | 1,32,469.86 | 10156.35 | 7.67 |

*Budget allocation to Agriculture Ministry is as per Union Budget website

(b): Details of the funds spent by the private sector on R&D in agriculture are not maintained in the department. However, private sector companies and other government departments such as Department of Biotechnology, Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Earth Science etc. approach ICAR for undertaking specific research activities. The total amount received by ICAR for such activities during last five years is shown below: -

| (Rs. in crores) | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Year | Private Sector | Other Government Departments |
| 2019-20 | 19.13 | 516.75 |
| 2020-21 | 25.77 | 466.38 |
| 2021-22 | 24.66 | 620.84 |
| 2022-23 | 22.40 | 656.45 |
| 2023-24 | 37.34 | 729.98 |

Department has taken several initiatives aimed at encouraging private sector research and development in agriculture. This department actively promotes Public-Private Partnerships to invest in agricultural R&D which includes collaborations in areas like innovative agricultural technologies, identifying potential areas for PPP in specific agricultural domains like precision agriculture, farm automation and post-harvest technologies.

Moreover, private sector also provides CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) funds to DARE/ICAR for carrying out various research and development activities.

(c): The increase of budget allocation of the Department during FY 2024-25 vis-à-vis FY 2023-24 is shown below: -

| (Rs. in crores) | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| DARE RE 2023-24 | DARE RE 2024-25 | % increase in RE 2024-25 over RE 2023-24 |
| 9876.60 | 10156.35 | 2.83% |
