

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1453
ANSWERED ON- 01/08/2025

**DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF CLIMATE-RESILIENT AND PEST-
RESISTANT SEED VARIETIES**

1453. SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

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

- (a) the steps taken under the National Mission on High Yielding Seeds for the development and distribution of climate-resilient and pest-resistant seed varieties suitable to the diverse agro-climatic zones of Maharashtra, including drought-prone and flood-affected districts;
- (b) the number of such region-specific seed varieties released during the last three years; and
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes to expand research and seed production in view of the emerging climate risks in Maharashtra?

ANSWER

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

- (a): The National Mission on High Yielding Seeds as announced in Union Budget (2025-26) aims strengthening research ecosystem, targeted development and propagation of seeds with high yield, pest resistance and climate resilience and ensuring commercial availability of new varieties to the farmers which include development of facilities for genotyping, phenotyping, computational, speed breeding, doubled haploid, seed processing, seed storage; development of cultivars with biotic and abiotic stress resistance and bioethanol recovery; and promotion of newly developed varieties in diverse agro-climatic zones of the country including Maharashtra .
- (b): During last three years, a total of 265 Climate Resilient field crop varieties have been released for Maharashtra.
- (c): ICAR is already having a national institute namely ICAR-National Institute of Abiotic Stress Management at Baramati which is conducting basic and strategic research on managing abiotic stresses like draught, waterlogging, salinity etc. Besides, ICAR has other institutes in Maharashtra on cotton, grapes, pomegranate, flowers, onion and garlic. Over past three years, a total of 48,491 quintals of breeder seed and 59,996 q of quality seed of various field crops were produced and distributed in Maharashtra state.
