

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1455
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/08/2025

**ESTABLISHMENT OF CIP-SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL CENTRE (CSARC) AT SINGNA,
AGRA**

1455. SHRI MILIND MURLI DEORA:

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

- (a) whether the Cabinet has approved the establishment of a South Asia Regional Centre of the International Potato Center at Singna, Agra;
- (b) if so, the key objectives of setting up this centre;
- (c) the total estimated cost of the project and the share of funding by Government of India and the International Potato Center; and
- (d) the timeline for the operationalisation of the said centre?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): Yes, the Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of South Asia Regional Centre of the International Potato Center at Singna, Agra on June 25, 2025.
- (b): The purpose of this project is to accelerate the sustainable development of the potato and sweetpotato sectors in India and the South Asian region through world-class science and innovation. The objective of this investment is to increase food and nutrition security, farmers income, job creation by improving potato, sweetpotato productivity, post-harvest management, value-addition. Improved potato and sweetpotato varieties and management practices will contribute significantly to diversification, environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaption in India's and South Asia's agriculture and food systems.
- (c): The total estimated cost of the project for five years will be ₹ 171.35 Crore (approx.) Financial support required from Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare will be ₹ 111.50 Crore (approx..) and CIP's contribution will be ₹ 60 Crore (approx.) for 5 years.
- (d): The requisite land at Singna, Agra has been handed over to National Horticulture Board for establishment of International Potato Centre's (CIP) South Asia Regional Centre (CSARC). The operationalization of the CSARC requires development of this land, office complex, breeding facilities, laboratories, etc. following the due process.
