

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 522
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/02/2018

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

522. SHRI KUNDARIYA MOHAN BHAI KALYANJI BHAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the facilities available for agriculture education and research in Saurashtra region of Gujarat;
- (b) the funds provided and achievements made therein during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government is considering any proposal to set up a dedicated Research Institute for semi-arid agriculture in the region;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to promote agriculture in Saurashtra region to increase farmers' income?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) The Junagarh Agriculture University, Junagarh along with its constituent colleges, research stations and KVKs have been established by Government of Gujarat to cater to the needs of Agriculture Education & Research in Saurashtra region of Gujarat.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established 11 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the Saurashtra region for assessment and demonstration of technology product and its dissemination through a number of extension programmes among farming community of region.

(b) The support provided to the Junagarh Agriculture University, Junagarh under the plan scheme of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during the last three years was Rs. 17.71 crore as per details below:

(Rs. in Crore)

2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
3.94	4.76	9.01

Agriculture including agricultural education is State subject. However, the ICAR provides critical funding for infrastructure and other facilities under the scheme “Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India”. Under this scheme support was provided for students amenities and facilities for enhancing and ensuring the quality of higher agricultural education and Post graduate research during the last three years. For smooth implementation of the Student ‘READY’ programme, as per the recommendations of the V Deans’ Committee, three new Experiential Learning Modules were also supported during last three years.

The Agricultural Universities have rendered a great service to the nation in the field of Higher Agricultural Education, Research & Extension. The university in liaison with ICAR has developed several location specific varieties and 15 varieties have got recognition at National level, cost effective technologies (suited to soil and climate) for farmers, seed production and their distribution viz. groundnut, wheat, chickpea, pearl millet, castor, sesame and horticultural crops of Saurashtra region, bio agents and bio fertilizers for farmers, control measures for prevalent pests of the region, fertilizer for the zinc and iron deficient soils developed, to boost agricultural production and productivity in the region.

(c) Presently there is no such proposal.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) During the last year, the KVKs in the Saurashtra region conducted 4838 On-Farm trials and Frontline Demonstrations (FLDs) for technology update and its application in farmers field; conducted 700 cluster FLDs on pulses & 2300 cluster FLDs on oilseeds; provided training to 4271 farmers and 455 extension personnel; created awareness on improved technologies among 1.31 lakhs farmers and others stake holders through various extension programmes. The KVKs also produced 321 quintals of seed; 0.91 lakh of planting materials and analysed 3244 samples of soil and water. Besides KVKs in this region also provided the mobile-agro advisory to farmers on various aspects of farming. These activities have benefitted the farmers in getting higher yields and more income.
