

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2244
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14th MARCH, 2023

CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE

2244. SHRI COSME FRANCISCO CAITANO SARDINHA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering cooperation in research on Climate Resilient Agriculture with the friendly countries in South Asia and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is considering creation of a 'seed-bank' for the region and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether our country has any ongoing dialogue or cooperation with any of the neighbouring countries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the role the Government envision for itself in the context of food security in South Asia?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Yes Sir, ICAR is engaged in a research program on "Consortium for Scaling-Up Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in South Asia (C-SUCSeS)". The focus of the program is to sustainably increase production and productivity and also to enhance food security, nutrition and income generation in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) region. The program also focuses on bringing together agricultural research centres and extension agencies in the SAARC region to develop and share knowledge on climate smart technologies and best practices.

(b): The South Asian governments have, agreed to consider the concept of a regional seed bank, regional testing and certification of seeds and a framework for transfer of plant genetic material and seeds.

(c): Yes, India has cooperation with SAARC and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). For capacity development of SAARC countries, regional training programmes are organized jointly by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and SAARC.

(d): Government has agreed to increase investment, promote research and development, facilitate technical cooperation and apply innovative, appropriate and reliable technologies in the agricultural sector for enhancing productivity to ensure food and nutritional security in the South Asian Region.
