

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4655
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

SEED INDUSTRY

4655. SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the challenges according to the Ministry, to boost Indian seed industry and help them explore global markets; and
- (b) the details of incentives provided by the Ministry for promotion of research and innovation in the biotechnology sector?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): The Government has been taking several measures to promote export of seeds. India has been a member of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Seed Schemes since October, 2008. India is participating in six OECD Seed Schemes viz. Cereals, Maize, Sorghum, Crucifers and other oil or fibre species, Grasses and Legumes and Vegetables. Participating in the OECD Seed Schemes facilitate the international trade among the member countries by using globally recognized labels and certificates. Since India joined OECD seed schemes, more than 250 Indian varieties of various aforesaid crops have been enlisted in OECD list of varietal certifications. Financial support is also provided to State seed certification agencies for implementation of OECD Seed Schemes to add to the seed exports from India.

(b): The Department of Biotechnology has set up Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) as an Interface Agency to strengthen and empower the emerging biotech enterprises to undertake strategic research and innovation, addressing nationally relevant product development needs. The Department of Biotechnology also provides competitive grants to the researchers in the field of biotechnology.
