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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1894 TO BE ANSWERED ON 1st AUGUST, 2023

NATIONAL INNOVATION IN CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE

1894. SHRI VELUSAMY P.:

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

(a) the salient features of the National Innovation in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA);

(b) the details of budget allocated and utilised under this innovative scheme during each of the past three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has observed any underutilization of funds in any of the financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): The salient features of NICRA project are to develop and promote climate resilient agriculture to address vulnerable areas of the country and help the districts and regions to cope up with extreme weather conditions like droughts, floods, frost, heat waves, etc. It has three components *viz.* strategic research, technology demonstration and capacity building. The main thrust areas include (i) identification of the most vulnerable districts/regions, (ii) development of crop varieties and management practices for adaptation and mitigation and (iii) assessment of climate change impacts on livestock, fisheries and poultry *vis-a-vis* identification of adaptation strategies.

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Financial Year	Allocation (Rs. in Crore)	Utilization (Rs. in Crore)
2020-21	49.83	44.74
2021-22	47.00	46.06
2022-23	40.87	40.54*
2023-24	48.15	12.04**

*Based on the Audit Utilization Certificates received till date. **Fund utilization as on 30 June, 2023.

(c) and (d): The fund utilization for 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 was 90%, 98% and 99.18%, respectively. During the financial year, 2020-21 and 2021-22, underutilized expenditure was due to COVID pandemics.