

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3606
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH DECEMBER, 2019

FARMING OF PULSES IN DRY REGIONS

3606. SHRI SUNIL BABURAO MENDHE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is seriously considering to promote pulses farming in the dry regions of the country and specially Vidarbha region of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by the Government so far in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Government is promoting pulses farming in the dry regions of the country including Vidarbha region of Maharashtra through a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely National Food Security Mission (NFSM)- Pulses to increase the production through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Under this programme, assistance is being given to the farmers through State Governments for organizing various types of demonstrations on improved production technologies, seed production & distribution, integrated nutrient and pest management, improved farm implements/resource conservation machines/tools, improved water devices, cropping system based training etc.

Under NFSM-Pulses, new initiatives have also been undertaken from 2016-17 onwards. These initiatives are breeder seed production, creation of 150 seed hubs in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), supply of seed minikits free of cost to the farmers, conducting frontline demonstrations on improved latest package of practices by ICAR/SAUs/Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) etc.

Besides the special programmes on inter-cropping of pulses with sugarcane and Targeting Rice Fallow Area (TRFA) for sowing of pulses have also been initiated in the country including Maharashtra for increasing the production of pulses.

As per the information provided by the State Government, all districts of Vidarbha region are covered under NFSM-Pulses. An amount of Rs. 54.95 crores have been incurred on various interventions in Vidarbha region during the year 2018-19. The target for implementing various interventions in Vidarbha region under NFSM-Pulses for the year 2019-20 is Rs. 74.20 crores.

