

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4516**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH, 2021

**FARMING OF FOX NUT**

4516. SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the farming of foxnut is done on a large-scale particularly in North Eastern parts of Bihar;
- (b) if so, whether the fox nut produced in Bihar is available in the whole country and also exported to foreign countries;
- (c) if so, the details of the same;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up any industry for fox nut farmers and to promote its scientific farming, so that farmers could be benefitted; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a): Yes, the farming of Fox Nut (Makhana) is being undertaken in North Eastern parts of Bihar including districts of Darbhanga, Madhubani, Purnia, Arariya, Supaul, Saharsa, Katihar, Kishanganj and Madhepura in an area of around 25000 Ha with production of around 1,20,000 MT in the State.

(b) & (c): The Makhana produced in Bihar is sold in various States of India like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat etc. However, it is also exported in other countries like USA, UAE, Nepal, UK, Australia, Qatar, Bangladesh, Saudi Arab, Maldives, Canada, Oman, Kuwait, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Bhutan, Malaysia, Bahrain and Pakistan etc.

(d) & (e): Yes, State Government of Bihar has formulated a State sponsored scheme i.e. Makhana Vikas Yojana which supports Seed Production, Demonstration, Area Expansion, Capacity Building, Research & Development, Integrated facilities for Processing & Packaging and market linkages for product promotion. Government of Bihar has also launched Bihar Agri Investment Promotion policy which covers establishment of units for Makhana also. In addition, ICAR-National Research Centre for Makhana, Darbhanga is working towards Development of better technology for harvesting and processing of Makhana to promote scientific farming in the region.