RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

1113. SHRI MANSUKHBHAi DHANJIBHAi VASAVA:

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

(a) whether the Government has formulated any priorities regarding research and development in agricultural sector in the next ten years;

(b) if so, the details of the priority sectors under the said Schemes; and

(c) the manner by which the benefits of the same are proposed to be given to the farmers?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/ Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) has developed a clear roadmap for next 10 years harnessing the power of science and innovation for securing food and nutritional security of our people, farmers' prosperity and to enhance natural resource base to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development of Indian agriculture sector. The focused areas of research and development include; Genetic enhancement of plants/animals/fish for higher productivity under increased intensity of biotic and abiotic stresses, productivity enhancement through sustainable intensification, and mechanization of agriculture and food system, enhancing value, safety and income through food processing, development of energy efficient technologies and farming practices, education and human-resource development & developing and promoting innovations in technology transfer systems.

(c) To ensure that the newer technologies like improved variety seeds of crops, new breeds/strains of livestock and fish and the improved production and protection technologies reach the farmers and end users in shortest possible time, technology demonstrations at the farmers' fields in close coordination with the concerned Central and state Government Departments and agencies are carried out. For this purpose, a network of 729 Krishi Vigyan Kendras has been created at district level in the country. Technology transfer also happens through systems using knowledge platforms like Portals, Mobile Apps and Web based communication networks. The capacity building of farmers, farmers groups and community – based Organisations like Farmers Producer Organisations, Self Help Groups etc. for acquiring knowledge and advisory for capacity building is also given focused attention. The rapid developments in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) are used as facilitator for faster dissemination of information and technologies developed by the National Agricultural Research System.

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