

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2735
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2nd August, 2022

NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE FOR MAKHANA

2735. SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:

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

- (a) whether the National Research Centre for Makhana, Darbhanga was set up in 2002 as an independent unit but the said centre has been brought under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research East Region, Patna by devaluating the Centre;
- (b) whether the post of Director has been abolished, the posts of scientists have been reduced and the work of seed processing has also been interrupted due to the devaluation of the centre whereas 90 per cent of the total makhana produced in the country is from Mithila region; and
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes to restore Research Centre for Makhana, Darbhanga as National Research Centre for Makhana and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) For conservation, research and development of Makhana, National Research Centre for Makhana was sanctioned by the Department of Agricultural Research & Education, Government of India, as a new scheme during the IXth Five Year Plan period (1997-2002) in May, 2001. Simultaneously, ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region (ICAR-RCER), Patna was established in the year 2001 with a broad research mandate of undertaking adaptive and strategic research on agri-horti crops, livestock, fishery, agroforestry, horticulture and management of flood and flood prone ecologies. Since, the institute has a broader mandate for whole of the eastern region, the Makhana centre was merged with ICAR-RCER, Patna.
- (b) Since the positions of director and scientists were not created, the question of abolishment of the position of Director and reduction in the number of scientific positions does not arise. However, for smooth running of the centre, 10 scientific positions are approved for Makhana Centre in cadre strength of ICAR-RCER, Patna.
- (c) No Sir, ICAR- RCER has full mandate to conduct all research activities related Makhana.
