

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3507**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024

**ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT OF CROP DIVERSIFICATION**

3507. SHRI P P CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether any assessment has been conducted regarding the impact of agricultural interventions, particularly crop diversification with salt-tolerant varieties and well desilting, if so, the findings thereof particularly for Pali district, Rajasthan;
- (b) the number of farmers benefited from these interventions during the last three years along with the improvements observed in crop yield and soil quality thereof in Pali district;
- (c) whether any specific financial assistance has been provided to farmers for sustainable agriculture practices, if so, the details thereof and utilization achieved in Pali district; and
- (d) whether these successful interventions from Pali district, which are being replicated in other districts with similar agro-climatic conditions and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
कृषि और किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY)

(a) & (b): Yes, assessment was carried out regarding the impact of agricultural interventions, particularly crop diversification with salt-tolerant varieties in Pali districts. On farm testing (OFT) were conducted using salt tolerant varieties of wheat (KRL-210) and mustard (CS-54) at different locations of Pali districts. The average yield of wheat and mustard was 36.8 and 17.3 q/ha, respectively. A total of 319 demonstrations were conducted on salt-tolerant crops including wheat, barley and mustard during 2021-23, resulting in yield improvements of 25.3, 20.3 and 32.3 percent, respectively. Crop diversification through salt tolerant varieties like green gram (Virat), cluster bean (RGC-1033), moth bean (CZM-2) and sorghum (CSV-27) showed on average 10-15 percent improvement in the crop yields as compared to farmer's local varieties. Additionally, the improvement in soil health was also observed in the demonstration plots. Further, the local existing practices for well desilting followed by farmers were encouraging.

During the last three years, a total of 582 farmers got benefited through technology demonstrations and 849 farmers got benefited from the capacity building programs like training, exposure visits, and field days etc.

(c) & (d): Yes, National Mission for sustainable Agriculture – Rainfed Area Development (NMSA-RAD) Scheme is operated in Pali District. The progress of financial assistance and budget utilization during three years is as under: –

2021-22: Rs. 3.45 lakh  
2022-23: Rs. 7.02 lakh  
2023-24: Rs. 16.53 lakh

The districts of similar agro-climatic conditions have also benefited under NMSA-RAD.

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