

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4337
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH AUGUST, 2025

EFFICIENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ICAR

4337. SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:

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

- (a) the actions that the Government has undertaken regarding the representation that was previously submitted to assess the legislation of Ontario (Canada), Tanzania, Mauritius and Sierra Leone;
- (b) whether this legislation seeks to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Agricultural Research Activities and accountability, so that after a comprehensive review, relevant points can be applied in our country to improve the efficiency and accountability of ICAR, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating the introduction of specific legislation to further enhance the efficiency and accountability of ICAR, 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): The Government has taken cognizance of the representation. To address the evolving challenges and to make Indian agriculture more resilient, profitable, and sustainable, NITI Aayog has formulated a comprehensive vision for Agriculture and the Rural Economy, aligned with the goals of Viksit Bharat by 2047. Accordingly, the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have strategically aligned their research, education, and extension systems with this national vision.

ICAR, a nearly century-old institution, has evolved into one of the world's largest networks of agricultural research and education. Since independence, ICAR has played a pivotal role in ensuring national food security through scientific and technological advancements, and has significantly contributed to positioning India as a net exporter of agricultural commodities.

(b): The National Agricultural Research System (NARS) in India comprises the ICAR, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Central Agricultural Universities (CAUs), and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). NARS engages in collaborative research and development with the private sector in technology development, transfer, and commercialization in agriculture and allied sectors.

The Government, from time to time, undertakes external evaluations of ICAR's schemes to assess the impact of its research programmes and to recommend measures for improving research efficiency and effectiveness. The recent such evaluation was undertaken during 2020–21, covering ICAR schemes implemented in the period 2017–2020.

(c): Government is not contemplating the introduction of such legislation for Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
