

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2572**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025

**EXTANT VARIETY OF COMMON KNOWLEDGE AND FARMER VARIETIES**

2572. SMT. PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA:

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

- (a) whether initiatives are being taken by the Government to conserve indigenous paddy varieties in the country particularly in Wayanad Parliamentary Constituency;
- (b) whether the Government extends support to tribal communities and farmer's organisations to take up conservation efforts, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of certificates issued for Extant Variety of Common Knowledge (VCK) and Farmers' Variety categories of cereal crops since 2015 in Kerala, district-wise;
- (d) the details of Extant VCK and Farmers' Varieties for all crop types registered in Wayanad Parliamentary Constituency;
- (e) whether any Extant VCK and Farmers' Varieties have been commercialized out of the total crops registered in Wayanad Parliamentary Constituency, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether any farmers, communities or institutions in Kerala have received benefit-sharing payments under this programme, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR)

(a): The Government of India through the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR) Authority, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) is taking several initiatives to conserve indigenous plant varieties (including paddy varieties). These initiatives include germplasm collection, characterization, registration of farmers' varieties, community seed bank support, and promotion of on-farm conservation in biodiversity-rich regions.

The PPV&FR Authority has registered 20 farmers' varieties of paddy from Wayanad District of Kerala.

In addition, ICAR- All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) funded Regional Agricultural Research Station, Pattambi under Kerala Agricultural University is doing collection, conservation, characterization of indigenous paddy varieties of Kerala under Seed Bank Project of State Government plan fund, which was completed in 2023 especially focusing on Wayanad District.

(b): The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR) Authority awards, rewards and recognizes farmers who have conserved plant genetic resources. Accordingly, so far, PPV&FR Authority has conferred 41 Plant Genome Saviour Community Awards to Farming Communities, 67 Plant Genome Saviour Farmer Rewards and 84 Plant Genome Saviour Farmer Recognitions.

Furthermore, the PPV&FR (Utilisation of National Gene Fund for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources) Rules, 2025 has been notified for providing support to conservation of Plant Genetic Resource including varieties of tribal farmers/ communities.

Besides, Government provides support to tribal communities and farmer groups involved in conservation of traditional varieties through capacity building programmes on varietal conservation and registration, assistance on establishing and strengthening community seed banks etc. through various schemes/programmes especially Seeds Component under National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) etc.

During 2019-2024, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Pattambi under Kerala Agricultural University provided support to tribal communities and farmers' organizations to take up conservation efforts through AICRP (Seed Crops) tribal subplan, providing seeds, agricultural inputs, implements, seed mills etc. in Wayanad district.

(c): The district-wise details of cereal crops registered under the categories of Farmers' Variety and Extant Variety of Common Knowledge (VCK) from the State of Kerala since 2015, are as under:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of District</b>	<b>No. of registered Farmers Varieties</b>	<b>No. of registered Extant VCK</b>
1	Malappuram	-	1
2	Wayanad	20	-

(d) & (e): The details of all crops registered under the categories of Farmers' Variety and Extant Variety of Common Knowledge (VCK) from Wayanad District, are as under:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of Crop</b>	<b>No. of registered Farmers' Varieties</b>
1	Black Pepper	1
2	Turmeric	1
3	Rice	20

(f): As on date, no claim of benefit sharing has been filed with PPV&FR Authority in the State of Kerala.

\*\*\*\*\*