

Parliament Questions replied (2024)

1. Lok Sabha Dy No 418 on Research in Biotechnology and Biology on whether there has been an increase in research publications in biotechnology and biology; if so, details thereof; whether the Government is promoting patenting and technology transfer activities in the field of biotechnology and biology; and if so, the details thereof?
2. Lok Sabha unstarred question no. 1316 due for 30.07.2024 regarding Effects of Water Resources Depletion on Agriculture (a) whether the Government realise that water resources depletion and biodiversity loss is affecting the agricultural sector in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and (c) the details of the corrective steps that the Government proposes to introduce in this regard?
3. Lok Sabha provisionally admitted Question Dy. No. 4904 regarding Genetically Modified Crops (Ref: No. No. 7-3 /2024 SD V dated 31st July 2024, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India) (a) The specific GM crops that are currently commercially cultivated in different States, providing details on the area under cultivation, the yield, and any variations observed across states classified, crop-wise (b) Whether the Government has conducted a study regarding the impact of GM crops in the country and if so, the number of farmers that are cultivating GM crops in the State of Andhra Pradesh; (c) The yield difference of GM crop farmers compared to farmers who cultivate ordinary crops; (d) The income difference of GM crop farmers compared to farmers who cultivate ordinary crops; (e) Whether the Government aims to conduct such a study, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?
4. Lok Sabha Question 2481 raised by Shri Sudhakar Singh on "Agreements made by ICAR with Private Companies"
5. Rajya Sabha question 2081 on Integration of traditional knowledge with modern agricultural practices: Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state: The efforts being made to integrate traditional knowledge systems and practices of indigenous communities of Odisha into modern agricultural practices; and the steps being taken to facilitate knowledge exchange programs between indigenous farmers in Odisha and modern agricultural researchers to enhance sustainable farming practices?
6. Calling attention Notice submitted by Rajya Sabha Member Dr Ajeet Madhavrao Gopchade regarding the state of Manipur, to enhance the cultivation and export of black rice, the unique orange variety and other orange farm products from Manipur
7. Rajya Sabha Parliament question No U2671 ICAR Institutes regarding information on training of farmers conducted by ICAR Institutes during last five years (2019-24)
8. Rajya Sabha Provisionally admitted unstarred question: Diary No. U4491 on "Collaboration with other countries in research cooperation"

Parliament Questions replied (2025)

1. LS S3550 on Biosafety Laboratories: (a) The details of the existing strength of biosafety laboratories in the country. State-wise classified as per their biosafety level (BSL), State/ UT wise; (b) the details of the number of biosafety labs established and under construction under the scheme for setting up of nation-wise Network of laboratories for managing epidemics and National calamities, state-wise and year-wise since 2021 as per their BSL and area level i.e., regional, state or medical college level; and the details of the funds released by the government for the establishment of biosafety labs under the said scheme, year-wise since 2021.
2. Unstarred Lok Sabha D.No: 7682 on proposal for Second Gene Bank Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (a) whether the Government propose for the 2nd Gene Bank with 10 lakh germplasm lines will be set up for future food and nutritional security and this will provide conservation support to both public and private sectors (b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?
3. Lok Sabha starred question Diary No 1102 for answer on 11.02.2025 regarding "Preserve and Promotion of Seeds" (a) Whether the government has any proposal to set-up more seed banks in the country to preserve and promote local indigenous varieties of plants (b) If so, the details thereof state-wise (c) The details of the funds allocated utilized along with the number of farmers benefitted from seed banks? (d) Whether the government has any plan to establish hybrid research centre in Maharashtra to produce more product and higher productivity than the open pollinated seed varieties (e) If so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the research centre
4. Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1299 by Dr. Kalyan Vaijinathrao Kale due for answer on 11.02.2025 regarding "Seed Banks:-reg. (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up more seed banks in the country to preserve and promote local indigenous varieties of plants; (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; (c) the details of the funds allocated and utilized along with the number of farmers benefited from the Seed Banks; (d) whether the Government has any plan to establish Hybrid Research Centre in Maharashtra to produce more product and higher productivity and then the open pollinated seeds varieties; and (e) if so, the details thereof and the fund allocated for the Research Centre?
5. Rajya-Sabha Diary No. S5244 Technologies commercialized for Indian Territory
6. Rajya Sabha Dy No. 6742 regarding Conserving and Serving Plant Genetic Resource (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state: (b) Whether the govt has announced the establishment of a second National Genebank in the 2025-26 budget to safeguard India's agricultural biodiversity; (c) if yes details thereof; (d) whether the establishment of Genebank will strengthen India's position as a leader in global biodiversity conservation, if yes efforts taken in this regard; and (e) the initiatives taken to safeguard Indians invaluable plant genetic resources in order to support both public and private sectors involved in genetic resource management across the country?
7. Rajya Sabha Provisionally Admitted Starred Parliament Question Diary No. S420 regarding "Promotion of scientific research"(a) Name of Ministry / Department / Organization(b) Steps being taken by Government to foster resources, operational autonomy and investment for high quality scientific research in the Indian research institutes; (c) Budget as on 28th Feb 2025(d) How the scientific researchers have yielded

any concrete results; and (e) The efforts being made by Government for encouraging education and scientific research in future?

8. Rajya Sabha Dr No S4629 on (a) whether the Government has implemented any specific schemes to promote traditional varieties of agriculture and horticulture, and if so, the details thereof; (b) how the Government plans to support champion farmers and seed saviours in conserving indigenous seeds; (c) what measures are being taken to link traditional varieties to market opportunities, particularly in rainfed areas; (d) whether are any initiatives aimed at enhancing community-managed seed systems, and if so, the specifics of these initiatives; and (e) how the Government intends to address the challenges posed by climate change on traditional farming practices?