

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 752**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023

**PROMOTION OF TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

752. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:  
SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:

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

- (a) the new schemes formulated by the Government for the protection and promotion of traditional agricultural products;
- (b) whether the Government is also planning to expand the research centre to conduct research in Bihar to improve the existing varieties of agricultural products and seeds and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether community seed bank has been established by the Government in Bihar also and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the status of expansion of "Sarvashrestha Set" – "Seeds for Needs" project in Bihar particularly in Gopalganj?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d): Yes Sir, Government is giving due attention to conserve the traditional varieties/ farmers' varieties and land races of various crops. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi has conserved 95,602 traditional varieties/ farmers varieties/ land races in the National Gene Bank for long term storage of which 13,670 accessions are of traditional varieties.

For the protection and promotion of traditional agricultural crops like millets and traditional varieties of other crops the subsidy on seeds is also available /provided to the farmers under Seed Village Program as well as National Food Security Mission.

The details of institutes funded by the Government for various scheme of protection and formulation of traditional agricultural products in Bihar is at **Annexure-I**

Besides, the details of Traditional Agricultural Products identified and registered in Bihar under Geographical Indication (GI) are given below:

1. Katarni Rice - GI tag no. 551 (2018).
2. Maaghi Paan - GI tag no. 551 (2018).
3. Mango- Bhagalpuri Zardalu - GI tag no. 551 (2018).
4. Sahi Litchi of Bihar - GI tag no. 552 (2019).
5. Mithila Makhana - GI tag no. 696 (2022).

For promotion of above Traditional Agricultural Products following research /promotional activities is being carried out at Bihar Agricultural University (BAU), Sabour.

**Katarni Rice** -Improvement of existing variety is being carried out for semi-dwarf, early and high yielding varieties with same texture and quality characteristics and seeds of the existing variety of Katarni Rice is being made available among the growers. The following research/promotional activities are being carried out:

1. A project on “Breeding for Architectural Modification of Katarni Rice worth ₹ 21.5 lakh funded by Department of Science and Technology (DST)(during 2013-2017).
2. A project for promotion of Katarni Rice worth ₹ 375 lakhs is going on since 2019 under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR).

**Mithila Makhana-** is a specialty product of Bihar and 80% of its production in the country comes from Bihar. For promotion, area expansion, yield improvement and other plant protection technology of Makhana various research/promotional activities are being carried out under Makhana Development Scheme with a total outlay of ₹ 596 lakhs.

The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority (PPV&FRA) encourages the community and individuals engaged in conservation, improvement and preservation of plant genetic resources by awarding, who have played stellar roles in such activities. It has also registered 2,028 farmers’/ traditional varieties of seeds (up to 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2023).

In addition, a scheme/component namely National Seeds Reserve (NSR) is being implemented under “Sub- Mission on Seeds and Planting Material” in the Country. In Bihar State, the scheme is implemented through Bihar State Seeds Corporation Ltd. The Department of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare has allotted the physical target of 5900 qtls. of seeds to the Bihar State Seeds Corporation Ltd. for maintaining seeds (including Gopalganj) during the current year i.e. 2022-23 in the National Seed Reserve.

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7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023 REGARDING PROMOTION OF TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
PRODUCTS**

**Institutes funded by Govt. / ICAR operating in Bihar**

1	Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, (RPCAU) Pusa, Samastipur (Bihar)
2	Bihar Agricultural University, (BAU) Sabour, Bhagalpur (Bihar)
3	ICAR-Mahatma Gandhi Integrated Farming Research Centre, Motihari, Bihar
4	ICAR-National Research Centre on Lichi, Muzzafarnagar, Bihar
5	ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute Regional Station, Pusa, Samastipur
6	ICAR-Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research Regional Centre, Motipur
7	ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research Regional Maize Research & Seed Production Centre, Begusarai
8	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Seed, RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar
9	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Seed, BAU, Sabour, Bihar
10	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Rice, RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar
11	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Rice, RPCAU, Patna, Bihar
12	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Forage, RACAU, Pusa, Bihar
13	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Wheat, BAU, Sabour, Bihar
14	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Rice, BAU, Bihar
15	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Honeybee, RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar
16	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Small Millets, RPCAU, Dholi
17	ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Maize, RPCAU, Dholi, Bihar
18	ICAR-Consortium Research Project on Agro biodiversity, RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar

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