

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4523  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005  
PRODUCTION OF GROUNDNUTS  
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of existing research farms for groundnuts in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether the groundnut seed research farm in the Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu has been closed;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up oil seed research farm especially for groundnuts in the said district;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to reopen the said farm?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) Under Centrally sponsored 'All India Coordinated Research Project on Groundnut (AICRP-G)' there are three regular centres, namely, Vriddhachalam (Cuddalore District), Aliyarnagar (District Pollachi) and Bhavanisagar (District Sakthi) and one voluntary centre, Coimbatore, which undertake researches on groundnut improvement, management and protection aspects in Tamil Nadu State.

(b) & (c): No, Sir. There is one Oilseeds Experiment Station at Tindivanam in Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu which still functions under Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and carries out researches on important dryland oilseed crops like castor, sesame, including groundnut. In addition, for validation of technologies including varietal evaluation of AICRP-G programme, Tindivanam is being used as a testing Centre. Under the AICRP-G programme, multidisciplinary groundnut research is being carried out at Regional Research Station, Vriddhachalam, which has agro-ecological conditions similar to that of Tindivanam.

(d) to (f): Since the Oilseed Experiment Station at Tindivanam in Villipuram district of Tamil Nadu continues to function, the question of reopening it or setting up a new research farm does not arise.