

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:810

ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES .

Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether India has joined hands in agricultural research with neighbouring countries;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether it is proposed to make short term and long term programmes on research;
- (d) If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) The steps taken to improve agricultural operations in the country with their collaboration?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has signed Memorandum of Agreement/Agreements with Sri Lanka Council of Agricultural Research Policy (CARP), Sri Lanka, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Bangladesh and Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Pakistan. Also, an umbrella Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation with Nepal Agricultural Research Council, Nepal has been signed by Ministry of Agriculture.

(c) & (d): The programme of research cooperation is implemented through Work Plans which include exchange of germplasm, joint research projects, short-term/long-term trainings and exchange visits of scientists. ICAR has signed a Work Plan with CARP, Sri Lanka for 2006-2007 on 26th January, 2006. ICAR has also signed a Work Plan with Nepal Agricultural Research Council, Nepal for 2006-2007 on 7.2.2006 under the umbrella MoU signed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

(e) The knowledge gained about the technologies in specific areas through the exchange visits is utilized in research programmes for developing improved agricultural technologies and the received germplasm of crops with specific traits, is utilized in the Indian crop improvement programmes.