

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4503
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2000
PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have decided to introduce legislation for the protection of plant varieties and farmers rights in the country;
- (b) if so, whether views of the state Governments have been taken into consideration in this regard;
- (c) if so, whether the views of experts of agriculturists were also incorporated in the proposed legislation; and
- (d) if so, the time by which a final decision for introducing the legislation is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

- (a) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture had introduced the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Bill, 1999" in the Lok Sabha on 14.12.99. The Bill was referred to a Joint Committee of both the Houses of Parliament.
- (b) to (d) The Committee visited various states and received the comments/suggestions on the provisions of the Bill from experts/individuals/associations/ organizations. Based on the comments, the Committee modified the Bill and presented its Report to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 25.8.2000. The Bill, as revised by the Committee, is proposed to be considered for passing during the current session of the Parliament.