

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4042  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000  
PRODUCTION OF WHEAT  
ANANDRAO ADSUL

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

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Agriculture Research has formulated a new policy to increase the production of wheat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to make seeds easily available to the wheat growing marginal and small farmers of the country particularly in Maharashtra State and also to provide financial assistance to them; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed a long-term policy to enhance productivity and production of wheat on a sustainable basis.

The salient features are:

- Development of high yielding varieties of bread and durum wheats having resistance/tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses and other desirable traits for different agro-ecological zones and production conditions.
- Development of package of improved production-protection technologies including integrated nutrient management, water management, weed control, disease management and new tillage practices.

(c) & (d) Though, the production and distribution of certified/quality seed to the farmers including small and marginal is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Govt. of India assesses the seed requirement and availability position through detailed interaction with state governments and seed producing agencies in the six-monthly Zonal Seed Review Meetings for Rabi and Kharif seasons, so as to ensure that seed requirement is met to the maximum extent possible.

The Government of India has centrally sponsored schemes to provide incentive on various inputs including certified seed, and in these programmes, there is already a directive to give preference to small and marginal farmers in various states including Maharashtra. In the Central Sector Scheme on minikits for popularisation of latest released/notified varieties and improved production technologies, certified seed is supplied at nominal rate. Under Integrated Cereal Development Schemes on enhancing production and productivity of wheat and other crops, incentive is provided on certified seed of wheat @ Rs. 200 per quintal.