

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6013
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
UNION FOR PROTECTION OF NEW PLANT VARIETIES CONVENTION
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;PRABHA RAU

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have applied for membership of Union for the Protection of New Plant Varieties Convention;
- (b) if so, the terms and conditions applicable for the same;
- (c) the benefits expected for the Indian farmers therefrom;
- (d) whether option will be available to protect the interest of farmers in case of adverse impact; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a): Yes, Sir. India has applied for membership of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) Convention, 1978.
- (b): The terms and conditions for membership of UPOV stipulate that the domestic law on the subject should broadly conform to the provisions of the UPOV Convention.
- (c): Accession to UPOV will facilitate greater investment in plant breeding activities which will help in making available quality seeds to the farmers.
- (d): Yes, Sir.
- (e): The Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 provides for payment of compensation to farmers in case the variety does not perform to the expected level.