

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1771
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005
INDO- US COLLABORATION IN AGRICULTURE
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farm pacts to provide fillip to bio-tech draught resistant seeds is being considered under the Indo-US collaboration in agriculture;
- (b) if so, whether `magic seeds` distributed by International Agricultural Research Centres of the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations is focused for the purpose; and
- (c) if so, the extent to which this Indo-US agriculture collaboration has helped and likely to improve the agricultural production in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): No, Sir. However, a Joint declaration has been signed on 12.11.2005 between India and US regarding support for India - US knowledge Initiative on agricultural education, research, service and commercial linkages. The initiative will focus on teaching, collaborative research, information, education, communication technologies, commercialization and compliance with international standards, SPS and related areas