

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:271
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010
CORN PRODUCTION
Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether weak monsoon has affected the production of corn in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total area under corn cultivation and production achieved during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether there are reports that the poor quality of the grains had adversely affected its export;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of corn produced in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 271 DUE FOR REPLY ON 16TH MARCH, 2010.

(a): Yes, Madam, the weak monsoon has affected the maize production and productivity during 2009-10.

(b): State-wise area, production and yield of maize during the last 3 years and current year (2009-10), as per the 2nd advance estimate (2009-10) of Directorate of Economics & Statistics, is Annexed.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Question does not arise.

(e): Directorate of Maize Research, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is working on improvement of quality of maize crop in the country. Nearly 145 hybrids and composite varieties have been released at National and State level for commercial cultivation of maize. Package of practices including production technologies, water management, post-harvest care for production of good quality grains have been developed. Assistance is provided to the farmers for adopting improved package of practices through various crop development schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.