

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:706

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010

SEEDS POLICY

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

- (a) the salient features of the Seeds Policy, 2002;
- (b) the targets fixed for raising seed production and export to boost the country's share in the global trade;
- (c) the country's position in relation to other countries in this regard;
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to increase seed production and export;
- (e) whether the Government has reviewed the National Seeds Policy, 2002; and
- (f) if so, the outcome thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): The thrust areas of the Seeds Policy, 2002 are as under:

- i) Varietal development and plant variety protection
- ii) Seed Production
- iii) Quality assurance
- iv) Seed distribution and marketing
- v) Infrastructure facilities
- vi) Transgenic plant varieties
- vii) Import of seeds and planting material
- viii) Export of seeds
- ix) Promotion of domestic seed industry
- x) Strengthening of Monitoring System

(b) & (c): An annual requirement of 253.99 lakh quintals of seed was assessed under National Seed Plan 2005. There is significant improvement in availability of seeds as indicated below:

(Qts. in lakh Qtls.)

Year Availability

2004-05 132.27

2005-06 140.51

2006-07 148.18

2007-08 194.31

2008-09 250.35

2009-10 279.72

The National Seeds Policy, 2002 envisaged raising India's share of global seed export to 10% by the year 2020. The value of India's export of agricultural products was 10.45% in total exports for the period April-June 2009.

(d): The Government is implementing various schemes to increase seed production viz.,

(i) Development & Strengthening of Infrastructural Facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds

(ii) National Food Security Mission (NFSM)

(iii) Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)

(iv) Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA)

(v) National Horticulture Mission (NHM)

(vi) Technology Mission on Horticulture for North East (TMNE)

(vii) Technology Mission on Cotton

(viii) Technology Mission on Jute & Mesta.

(ix) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

(x) Mega Seed Project

India has joined Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Seed Schemes and International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) to facilitate movement of seeds in International trade. India is also a member of International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) which provides quality standards for international seed trade.

(e): No, Madam.

(f): Does not arise.