

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5026
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010
FAILURE OF MAIZE CROP
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of failure of maize crop after sowing of `Kargil 900m` produced by US based Monsanto in large belts of Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Monsanto is permitted to sell such seeds in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has sought any report in this regard from the State Governments about the production of maize by using genetically modified seeds sold by foreign companies like Monsanto;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereon; and
- (g) the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard?

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) to (g): Yes, Madam. Nearly 61,000 hectare of maize crop is reported to be damaged due to non-setting of grains in maize sown in October, 2009 which is attributed to un-favourable weather conditions as per report of Rajendra Agricultural University, Bihar. Commercial cultivation of genetically modified crop of maize has not been allowed in the country. The problem of grain setting has been reported across hybrids including Monsanto. State Government has approved compensation of Rs.10,000 per hectare among the affected farmers.