

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1362

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

SEEDS BILL

Kumar Shri Kaushalendra; Ramkishun Shri ; Sharma Shri Jagdish; Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan); Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether some farmers' representatives have submitted suggestions to the Government regarding amendments in the Seeds Bill, 2004;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase private participation in the seed sector and to liberalise the import of seeds and planting material; and
- (d) if so, the details 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) & (b): Yes, Madam. Suggestions with regard to terminator technologies, traditional seed varieties, rights of the farmers, power of the Seeds Inspectors, monopoly of the Seed Industry etc. were received from organisations such as President, All India Kissan Sabha; General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Ruthu Sangam; General Secretary, Punjab Kissan Sabha etc. These suggestions were taken into consideration and adequate provisions have been made in the Seeds Bill, 2004.

(c) & (d): The Seeds Bill provides for participation of private sector in evaluation of varieties and testing of seeds, as per the standards prescribed by the Government of India. The Bill incorporates provisions for import of seeds and also planting material.