

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2201  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010  
SEEDS BILL  
Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to seek public opinion on the Seeds Bill;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**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 (c): In recognition of the need for upgrading the seed quality regime, the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation constituted a Seed Policy Review Group to suggest improvements required in the seed sector. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Seed Policy Review Group, extensive consultations were held with experts, Agricultural Research Institutions, Agricultural Universities, National and State Level Seed Corporations, Private Seed Companies, Seed Certification Agencies, State Departments, Farmers Organizations. On the basis of the recommendations of the Seed Policy Review Group and consultations with experts, the draft legislation i.e. the Seeds Bill, 2004 was formulated and submitted to Parliament.

Besides Parliament Standing Committee on Agriculture had met eight times from 17-02-2005 to 26th September, 2006 and had discussion with the public and other stakeholders.

A Press Communique was also issued for publication in the National and regional newspapers and All India Radio and Doordarshan's National as well as Regional Channels.