

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2259
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
DRY LAND FARMING TECHNIQUES
Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring a new seed policy and also introduce a new farm technology for dry land farming in various parts of the country including Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such measures are likely to be implemented?

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): There is no proposal to bring a new seed policy. The Government had formulated the New Policy on Seed Development in 1988, primarily to provide access to Indian farmers of the best of seed and planting material available anywhere in the world. National Seeds Policy, 2002 lays emphasis on adoption of appropriate policy framework and programmatic interventions to stimulate varietal development in tune with market trends, scientific-technological advances, suitability for biotic and abiotic stresses, locational adaptability and farmers' needs. The Government has set up the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) as an advisory, policy making and monitoring body to provide knowledge inputs regarding systematic up-gradation and management of dryland and rainfed agriculture. NRAA has published the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects with a fresh framework for the next generation watershed programmes. The Guidelines coupled with the flexibilities inherent in them would provide an enabling framework for the planning, design, management and implementation of all watershed development projects in the country, including Madhya Pradesh. The Authority has also prepared a Vision document for the 'National Perspective Plan' for the development of rainfed areas.