

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4503  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011  
AGRICULTURE EXTENSION SERVICE  
Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has allowed agricultural extension services to be provided by Multi National Companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any States have already gone ahead with such a plan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a): The scheme "Support to State Extension programme for Extension Reforms" provides for implementation of different extension activities in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode with at least 10% of the scheme allocation on recurring activities at district level to be incurred through non-governmental sector viz. Non Governmental Organizations(NGOs), Farmers Organizations(FOs), Panchayati Raj Institutions(PRIs), Cooperatives, Para Extension Workers, Agri-preneurs, Input Suppliers, Corporate Sectors etc. Some multi-national companies also carry out on their own extension activities related to their business activities or otherwise.
- (b): A Centrally Sponsored scheme "Support to State Extension programme for Extension Reforms" launched in 2005 is under implementation in 603 districts of 28 States and 3 UTs. The scheme promotes decentralized farmer driven and farmer accountable extension system through various agencies in government and non-government sectors and makes available latest agricultural technologies to farmers. Multinationals like McCain , Pepsi, ITC, Mahindra & Mahindra have done extension work as per (a) above.
- (c): States have been following to varying extents the Government's policy decision to involve non-governmental sector.
- (d): Not Applicable.