

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1318

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011

SUPPLY OF SEEDS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Dubey Shri Nishikant ; Lal Shri Kirodi ; Shekhawat Shri Gopal Singh; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the demand and supply of seeds supplied by the Government and private agencies to various States including Jharkhand and Maharashtra during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the seeds supplied by the Government agencies is of low quality and as on result the per hectare yield is low;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that farmers are facing acute shortage of medium and short duration crop varieties of seeds;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Union Government is assisting the State Governments in seeds related activities for improving the availability of quality seeds including short and medium duration varieties; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): State-wise details of the demand and supply of certified/quality seeds by the Government and private agencies during last three years are at Annexure-I.
- (b) & (c): Generally seeds supplied by Government Agencies are certified seeds which are duly certified by the State Seed Certification Agency based on the seed crop meeting the minimum field standards and minimum seed certification standards. However, during Kharif-2010, there were reports in respect of Paddy KRH-2 hybrid seeds, supplied by National Seeds Corporation Ltd to 8 districts of Chhattisgarh, regarding variation in plant height and differences in the time of flowering with sterility resulting in adverse impacts on yield. However, a joint inspection team comprising of officers from the State Department of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation and Chhattisgarh State Seed Agriculture Development Corporation Ltd. which visited the affected districts reported that in some areas, the yield was very high and in some areas the yield was low which was not due to seed defect alone but also due to adverse climatic conditions and low rainfall.
- (d) & (e): No, Madam. Availability of short and medium duration crop varieties seeds in the country are at Annexure-II.
- (f) & (g): Yes, Madam. For improving the availability of quality seeds including short and medium duration varieties, the Union Government is assisting the State Governments in seed related activities under various crop development schemes. The details of the schemes are at Annexure-III.