

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3215
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011
POLICY ON SEED DEVELOPMENT
Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether under the revised New Policy on Seed Development, 1988 being implemented from 27 June, 2011 the Government has sought international assistance to make available the best planting material in the world to Indian farmers;
- (b) if so, the assistance sought and received from various countries so far, cropwise; and
- (c) the likely increase in the production of these crops in the next two years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has revised the new Policy on Seed Development 1988 on 27.6.2011 to allow import of specified quantity of seeds of wheat and paddy initially for trial and evaluation purpose under the supervision of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Based on the results of trial for one crop season, the import of seeds of wheat and paddy can be allowed for a period not exceeding 2 years as per the provisions of Plant Quarantine Order, 2003 and subject to such other conditions as stipulated in the revised New Policy on Seed Development, 1988. However, no international assistance has been sought to make available best planting material to Indian farmers.

(c): Under the revised New Policy on Seed Development, 1988 no proposal for bulk import of seeds of wheat and paddy have been allowed so far. Hence, it is not feasible to assess the increase in the production of these crops due to import of seed.