

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4321

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2011

SETTING UP OF NATIONAL SEEDS STOCK

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Pradhan Shri Amarnath;Roy Shri Arjun

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

(a) whether there is shortage of good quality seeds in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to set up National Seeds Stock/National Commission on Seeds to meet the shortage of seeds in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the details of the strategy formulated by the Government to maintain the seeds stock and to assist common farmers including the farmers affected by floods, etc.?

**Answer**

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

(a): No, Madam. No shortage of good quality seeds has been felt in the country. The details of availability of certified/quality seed against the requirement in the country for the last three years is as under:-

Quantity in Lakh Quintals

2009-10    2010-11    2011-12

R# A# R# A# R# A#

249.1 2279.7 2290.7 6321.3 6330.4 1353.62

R# Requirement A#Availability

(b) to (d): No, Madam. The Government does not propose to set up National Seeds Stock or National Commission of Seeds. However, the Government is already implementing a Central Sector Scheme titled "Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds" under which there is a separate component "Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank" for meeting the requirement of seeds during natural calamities like flood, drought etc. and other unforeseen conditions and also to meet the shortage of seeds, if any, in the country. Seed Banks maintain seed stock of foundation and certified seeds of short and medium duration varieties which are locally suited to the area and are able to withstand stress of heat, submergence etc. The scheme is implemented through State Seeds Corporations, State Governments and two national seed producing Public Sector Undertakings namely National Seeds Corporation of India (NSC) and State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI). Government provides revolving fund to the implementing agencies for procurement of raw seeds and reimbursement of the expenditure incurred on the maintenance of seeds including transportation, grading & packing, insurance and seed losses during storage.