

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:370

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2011

HIGH YIELDING VARIETY OF SEEDS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme for the development of High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds of various crops in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the high yielding variety seeds developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during the last one year;
- (c) whether HYV seeds including wheat and maize are being developed only in foreign countries;
- (d) if so, the reasons for the inability of ICAR in developing HYV seeds in the country itself; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to check the contamination of transgenic seeds and also to push research activities towards improving the quality of seeds in the country and safeguard the interests of the farmers?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 370 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2011 REGARDING "HIGH YIELDING VARIETY OF SEEDS"

(a) Yes, Madam. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established crop-wise All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs), mostly situated in State Agricultural Universities (SAUs). Under this system varieties are developed and tested under different agro climatic conditions continuously for three years before releasing them for cultivation.

(b) During 2010-11, 190 high yielding varieties have been released by Central Varieties Release and State Varieties Release Committees in different crops.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) The high yielding varieties of all the crops including wheat and maize suited to Indian conditions are developed and released by ICAR and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) through AICRPs in India.

(e) At National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), techniques are available to test transgenic seeds and could thus check contamination. Transgenic seeds are released on commercial scale following the regular guidelines of Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM)/Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), Government of India. ICAR also participates in the monitoring and need based assessment. ICAR is producing breeder seeds of all the improved varieties, as per the indent received from various seed producing agencies, to maintain quality and purity of seeds to get the better productivity by the farmers.