

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:17
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012
PRODUCTION OF CORN
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the production of corn in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government provides any financial assistance/ subsidy to farmers for growing corn;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to encourage corn production in the country?

Answer

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

(a): State-wise details of production of maize during the last three years and the current year, i.e., 2008-09 to 2011-12 are given in the Annexure.

(b) to (d): The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Maize and Oilpalm (ISOPOM) in 15 major States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, J&K, Tamil Nadu, U.P. & West Bengal w.e.f. 1.4.2004. Under the above Scheme, financial assistance is provided for production of breeder seeds, purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, supply of improved agricultural implements, supply of micro-nutrients, weedicides, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyriteliming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training publicity etc., to encourage farmers to grow maize.

Besides, ISOPOM, Government provides support under various other schemes viz. Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme provides assistance for maize development to the States not covered under ISOPOM. Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), the States can support crop development activities approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee.

To increase productivity of corn in the country, a platform for focused research on single cross hybrids has been initiated by ICAR including development of biotic and stress tolerant maize hybrids suitable for rainfed conditions.

In order to support farmers with better returns, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of maize has also been increased from Rs.880/- per quintal in 2010-11 to Rs.980/- per quintal in 2011-12.