

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2236
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
USE OF HYBRID SEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of hybrid seeds used in the agriculture sector in the country;
- (b) whether the Government exercises any control over the price of such seeds;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government for research and development of high productive seeds?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

- (a): A total of 370 hybrids have been released in different field crops which includes rice 47, maize 89, pearl millet 82, sorghum 32, cotton.65, sunflower 29, safflower 4, castor 17, rapeseed and mustard 4 and pigeon pea 1.
- (b) & (c): No, Madam. There is no provision for regulating price of seeds under the Seed Act, 1966, the Seed Rules, 1968 and the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. Although seed is an essential commodity in terms of Seeds (Control) Order, 1983, the same is for the purpose of quality regulation and not for the purpose of regulating the prices of seeds.
- (d); The National Agriculture research System has taken severai steps to develop the high yielding hybrids like:
- (i) Diversification of male sterile lines in different genetic background and maturity groups.
 - (ii) Diversification of restorer lines with respect to resistance/tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses and maturity durations.
 - (iti) Refinement of technologies for cost effective, seed production of parental lines as well as hybrids, and
 - (iv) Reconstitute of genetic pools by incorporating the desirable genes from different sources.