

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:264

ANSWERED ON:24.04.2012

QUALITY OF SEEDS

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Vishwanath Shri Adagur H

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the requirement and the quantity of seeds made available to the farmers by the Government and private agencies during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received complaints of supply of spurious/substandard seeds to the farmers from various States during the current crop season;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the nature of complaints received during the above period, State-wise;
- (d) the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure availability and supply of quality seeds to the farmers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 264 DUE FOR REPLY ON 24TH APRIL, 2012.

(a): The details of State-wise requirement and the quantity of seeds made available by the Government and private agencies during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 are at Annexure I.

(b) to (d): During the current crop season in 2011-12, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has received few complaints regarding substandard/spurious seeds, the details of which alongwith action taken are at Annexure II.

(e): The production of certified/quality seed in the country has increased from 140.51 lakh quintals in 2005-06 to 353.62 lakh quintals in 2011-12. For ensuring adequate production, availability and supply of quality seeds to the farmers of the country, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing various schemes. Under the central sector scheme "Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds", assistance is provided for strengthening and modernizing seed infrastructure facilities in public as well as private sector, upgrading the quality of farm saved seed through seed village programme, production and distribution of hybrid seeds, establishing Seed Bank for ensuring seed availability in contingency situations, quality control arrangement of seeds etc. In addition, financial assistance is given for seed related activities including production and distribution subsidy under various crop development programme/schemes viz; National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Technology Mission on Cotton, Technology Mission on Jute & Mesta, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for the North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and Mega Seed Project implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Further, for taking care of demand and supply of quality/certified seeds, zonal meetings with the States are held before Kharif and Rabi season of every year, wherein tie ups for seed supply and distribution between States and different seed producing agencies are facilitated.