

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1586
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012
BLACKMARKETING OF SEEDS
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of black marketing of seeds on a large scale in various States in the country including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received complaints that spurious seeds are available on a large scale in the market;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to provide genuine/quality seeds to farmers in the country?

Answer

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

- (a): No such report of black marketing of seeds has received from the States including Andhra Pradesh.
- (b) to (d): The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported to have received few complaints in Warangal, Guntur, Adilabad, Khamman and Kurnool districts during Kharif 2012. A total quantity of 567 quintals, worth Rs. 409 Lakhs of spurious seeds was seized and suitable action against culprits was taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Twenty five persons were arrested and eighteen licenses of the defaulted dealers were suspended/cancelled. Seventeen cases were booked under IPC 420.
- (e): For regulating the quality of seeds in the country and for curbing the sale of substandard/spurious seeds, adequate provisions are available under the Seeds Act, 1966, the Seed Rules, 1968 and the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. The State Governments including Andhra Pradesh are fully empowered to take action in all such cases at their level. The Seed Inspectors notified under relevant provisions of these legal instruments have powers to draw the samples, seize the stock and issue 'Stop Sale' order and file prosecution in the court if the seed under reference contravenes the provisions of law.