

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2492
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013
DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH QUALITY SEEDS
Deshmukh Shri K. D.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian farmers have been depending on foreign multinational companies for high quality and certified seeds because of the failure of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to make available/develop such seeds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the details of high quality and certified seeds developed by the research institutes during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the various steps taken by the Government to develop new variety of seeds and make them available to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Indian Farmers are mainly dependent upon the quality seeds produced by National Agricultural Research System (NARS) coordinated by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) as per demands from various states/seed corporations gives yearly indent to ICAR for breeder seed. The foundation and certified seed is produced from this breeder seed.

(c) Invariably, the higher quantity of breeder seed than the indented quantity has been produced by research institutes during the last three years (Annexure-I). Accordingly, availability of certified seed has been higher than the required quantity (Annexure-II).

(d) NARS develops new varieties of crops to address various biotic and abiotic stresses and to improve per unit productivity. The number of varieties developed during last three years is given in Annexure-III.