

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1920

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013

SALE OF SUB STANDARD SEEDS

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several cases of sale of spurious/sub-standard seeds by various companies has been reported during each of the last three years in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and crop-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring a strong legislation to curb the production and sale of sub-standard/spurious seeds in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to supply certified seeds through its agencies/Krishi Vigyan Kendras?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The details of complaints of supply of spurious/sub-standard seeds received from the State Governments/UTs for the last three years and action taken are at Annexure I.

(c) & (d): The State Governments are empowered to curb the sale of spurious/sub-standard seeds under the relevant provisions of the Seeds Act, 1966, the Seed Rules, 1968 and the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. To further strengthen the seed quality regime, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has introduced the Seeds Bill, 2004 in the Rajya Sabha.

(e): Production and supply of quality/certified seeds to the farmers is the primary responsibility of the State Governments who undertake the same through Seed Corporations, State Seed Farms, State Agricultural Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Cooperatives and Private Sectors. The efforts of State Governments are supplemented through National Agencies like National Seeds Corporation, State Farm Corporation of India, National Cooperatives, etc. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is also implementing several schemes, which provide assistance for seed related activities including production and distribution subsidy for seeds under various crop development programme/scheme.