

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:750  
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015  
FARMING OF OPIUM  
Misra Shri Ajay (Teni)

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the criteria/ guidelines /rules and regulation prescribed for opium farming in the country;
- (b) whether the licences for opium farming are issued only to farmers for cultivation and promotion of opium in notified areas in States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the areas notified for opium farming in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) whether Government has Special provision/criteria to grant permission for opium farming in Non-notified areas on demands of farmers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

- (a) Section 9 of the NDPS act, 1985 empowers the Central Government to permit and regulate by rules, the cultivation (such cultivation being only on account of Central Government) of opium poppy. Chapter III (Rules 5 to 30) of the NDPS Rules, 1985 deal with the licencing of opium cultivation. Rule 8, ibid, authorizes the District Opium Officer to issue licences for cultivation of opium poppy subject to the 'general conditions relating to grant of licences notified by the Central Government'. It has been the practice to notify these 'general conditions' every year through a Gazette Notification in the month of September for the crop year commencing from 1st of October and ending 30th September of the succeeding year. The general conditions for grant of opium poppy cultivation license for the crop year 2014-15 issued vide notifications dated 22-09-2014 and 28-11-2014 are enclosed at Annexure -I.
- (b) Yes, Madam.
- (c) Details of the area notified by Government of India for opium farming are enclosed at Annexure-II.
- (d) No Madam.
- (e) Not applicable, in view of response to (d) above