

Price policy for Groundnut

*111 SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether certain State Governments have urged for a long term price policy for groundnut,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB
P SHINDE) (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

New Variety of Sugar-Beet

*113 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH Will
the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND
IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether a high-yielding variety of sugar-beet suitable for cultivation under different agro-climatic conditions has been successfully developed by an agricultural scientist of Calcutta University, and

(b) whether sugar-beet and sugarcane require different climates and soil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ
KHAN) (a) No, Sir

(b) No Sugar beet favours cooler climate than sugarcane and grows well during winter months in subtropical India Both sugarcane and sugar-beet grow well in the same soil type.

Production and storage of seeds

*117 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE
SHRI ARJUN SETHI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) the targets of production of quality seeds during the current year,

(b) arrangements made for their proper storage and packaging, and

(c) break-up of storage and packaging centres of seeds state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB
P SHINDE) (a) to (c) Fixing targets for production of quality seeds and making arrangements for the production and distribution is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However all-India seed producing organisations like the National Seeds Corporation, Tarai Development Corporation and the State Farms Corporation of India also produce and market seeds of varieties of all-India importance to supplement the effort of the State Governments. The targets of production of quality seeds during the current year of these 3 organisations are given below

NSC	635894 quintals
SFCI	300787 quintals
TDC	375000 quintals

The National Seeds Corporation having processing and packaging facilities at 37 locations in the country with an annual capacity of 888500 quintals. State wise location of processing plants is given in statement I laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT-10441/76]. The National Seeds Corporation has seed stores of its own at 15 locations. Of this a capacity of 70500 quintals is ordinary storage and 8500 quintals of air conditioned storage. The Corporation is also hiring storage space for 146840 quintals.