

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1622
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND JULY, 2019

DISTRIBUTION OF HIGH QUALITY SEEDS

1622. SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is establishing any mechanism for distribution of high quality seeds to farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to use PPP mode in the country for developing good quality seeds; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir

The States are primarily responsible to ensure production, availability and distribution of quality seeds to the farmers through its Department of Agriculture, seed multiplication farms, State Seeds Corporation including National Seeds Corporation, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Cooperatives and Private Seed Companies etc.

The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by coordinating seed requirement and availability through the mechanism of Zonal Seeds Review Meetings prior to each sowing season and developing Seed Rolling Plan of State Government.

The Government of India is providing financial assistance for production and distribution of seed of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs) of different crops to the States and implementing agencies through various ongoing crop development programmes/ schemes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Sub-Mission on Seeds & Planting

Material (SMSP) under National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology (NMAET) etc.

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(c) & (d): The Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode is already in place for development and commercialization of varieties. The private seed companies are contributing their research material (Varieties) for testing under All India Coordinated Research Projects of different crops and these varieties are being released and notified after testing at both public and private sector test locations.

On the other hand, commercialization of seeds through PPP model is a successful initiative by the Government of India. Zonal Technology Management and Business Planning and Development (ZTM&BPD) Units and Institute Technology Management Units of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes and State Agricultural Universities have successfully commercialized and transferred new seed varieties to farmers' field *via* PPP mode.

More than 500 Memorandum of Agreements (MoAs) have been signed with private seed companies for licensing the varieties to seed companies for production and marketing the quality seeds for timely availability of good quality seeds at farmer's door step, which in turn helps in increasing the productivity as well as farmers' income.
