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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3820 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH JULY. 2019

SEED TESTING CENTRES

3820. SHRI VINAYAK RAUT: DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE: SHRI SRIRANGA APPA BARNE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a need for expansion of seed testing centres in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up seed testing centres in PPP mode to reduce the time taken in assessment and refinement of varieties of seed;

(d) if so, the response of the Government thereto;

(e) whether there is a need for 'Phytosanitary' certification, especially for export/import of seeds; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to establish at least one such certification centre in each State?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): No Sir, Currently 130, notified Seed Testing Laboratories are working across the country to ensure the quality of seed. Ministry is making all efforts to provide more seed testing facilities to farmers. Currently, there is no proposal to setup seed testing centres in Private Public Partnership (PPP) mode.

(e) & (f): Yes Sir,

For import - As per Plant Quarantine (Regulation of import into India) Order, 2003 seeds import for propagation purpose is allowed through 06 (xix) Regional Plant Quarantine Stations viz. New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Amritsar and Bangalore.

For export - For issuance of Phytosanitary Certificate (PSC) in export, total 198 PSC issuing authorities have been notified, which include of 68 Plant Quarantine Stations, 130 officers of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) Institutes/State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) and State Agriculture/Horticulture Department. PSC issuing authorities are notified for all the states.