

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2989
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15TH MARCH, 2016

SUPPLY OF SPURIOUS SEEDS

2989. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:
SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA:
SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:
SHRI DHARAMBIR:
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:
SHRI SIRAJUDDIN AJMAL:
SHRI NANA PATOLE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has received several complaints from various States including Maharashtra relating to supply of fake/substandard quality seeds to the farmers which resulted in reduction of more than 50 percent in germination capacity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its likely impact on the agricultural production along with the details of decline in annual agricultural production during the last three years;
- (c) the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to make strict law/legislation relating to germination of seeds; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to provide quality seeds to the farmers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

प्रकृष्टकृषि एवं किसान कल्याण प्रकृष्टकृषि एवं किसान कल्याण प्रकृष्टकृषि एवं किसान कल्याण

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c): A few cases of supply of spurious seeds were reported by the States like Maharashtra, Rajasthan Telangana and Madhya Pradesh. However, there is no report regarding the impact on agricultural production due to such sporadic cases. The overall agricultural production in the country has remained robust during the last three years despite of adverse climatic conditions. Details of complaints of supply of spurious seeds received from the State Governments for the last three years and action taken is at Annexure-I.

(d) & (e): To further strengthen the seed quality regime, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has introduced the Seeds Bill, 2004 in the Rajya Sabha which will have provision for enhanced penalty for sale of spurious/fake seed, compulsory registration of seed varieties, seed health standards, labeling of expected performance of seed varieties, regulation of seed price under emergent situations, compensation in case of failure of seeds etc.

Annexure-I**Details of complaints of supply of spurious/sub-standard seed received from the State Governments for the last three years and action taken**

Sl. No.	Name of State	Types of complaints	Action Taken
2015-16			
1.	Maharashtra	State Government has reported 69 complaints in cotton, 51 complaints in banana, 19 complaints in vegetable and other seeds and 1 complaint in soybean.	Action as per the law including launching police cases, filing court cases, stop sales, suspension and cancellation of licenses, issuance of stop sale order, seizure of stocks were taken. Further, strengthened enforcement wing with 1131 quality control Inspectors, Vigilance squads, Control rooms were formed at Divisional, Sub-Divisional, District and Panchayat Samiti level to monitor seeds law enforcement activities, samples are drawn at processing plant, godowns/store points to check the quality, mandatory submission of sale plan and detailed production plan by seed dealers to ensure the supply of quality seeds to the farmers.
2014-15			
1.	Rajasthan	Nil, but out of total 5091 samples drawn, about 6% were found to be sub-standard.	Action as per the law including issue show cause notice, stopping of sale, seizure, suspension/cancellation of license, and filing court cases for prosecution were taken.
2.	Telangana	State Government has reported that during inspection and seed analysis, 103 seed samples were found sub-standard.	8350.3 qlts seed of Rs 441.59 lakh were seized and five cases were filed.
3.	Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh	One case about sale of sub-standard seeds with the tag of Beej Pramanikaran Sanstha of Madhya Pradesh in Akola, Maharashtra.	Government of Madhya Pradesh had immediately suspended concerned officials and also suspended license of seed producing company involved in the matter.
2013-14			
1.	Rajasthan	Nil, but out of total 4104 samples drawn, about 5% were found to be sub-standard.	Action as per the law including issue show cause notice, stopping of sale, seizure, suspension/cancellation of license, and filing court cases for prosecution were taken.
2.	Telangana	State Government has reported that during inspection and seed analysis, 137 seed samples were found sub-standard.	4835 qlts seed of Rs 86.24 lakh were seized and nine cases were filed.

