

(c) and (d) Production of all agricultural crops including foodgrains is directly related with area coverage. On account of severe drought in Jharkhand during 2009-10 and 2010-11 there was significant reduction in the area coverage, as a result of which the production of foodgrains in the State declined. During the last year *i.e.* 2011-12 favorable monsoon helped in higher area coverage which resulted into all time record foodgrains production of 46.14 lakh tonnes (3rd Advance Estimates) in the State.

(e) In order to increase production and productivity of agricultural crops in all the States including Jharkhand on sustainable basis, a number of Crop Development Schemes/Programmes namely, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Integrated Cereals Development Programme for Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals under Macro Management of Agriculture and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture through State Governments. In addition to above schemes, during 2010-11, a new programme *viz.* Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India has been initiated under RKVY. National Food Security Mission has been strengthened from 1.4.2010 with the merger of pulses component of ISOPOM and inclusion of two new potential States namely; Assam and Jharkhand for pulses production. A new programme "Accelerated Pulse Production Programme (A3P)" in the form of block demonstrations has also been started to cover 1000 units of 1000 hectares each of five pulses crops in 16 pulse growing States of the country including Jharkhand. Further, to minimize the impact of deficient monsoon/drought on area coverage and production of agricultural crops, the State Governments also implement location specific Contingency Plans.

Supply of sub-standard seeds to farmers

3883. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

SHRI N. K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has received complaints of supply of spurious/substandard seeds to farmers across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure availability and supply of quality seeds to farmers across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation during last three years has received few complaints regarding sub-standard/spurious seeds, the details of which alongwith action taken are given in Statement (See below).

(c) For ensuring adequate availability and supply of quality seeds to the farmers, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing the central sector scheme "Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds" under which assistance is provided for strengthening and modernizing seed infrastructure facilities in public as well as private sector, upgrading the quality of farm saved seeds through seed village programme, production and distribution of hybrid seeds, establishing Seed Bank for ensuring seed availability in contingency situations, quality control arrangement of seeds etc. In addition, financial assistance is also provided for seed related activities including production and distribution subsidy under other crops development programme/schemes viz, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Technology Mission on Cotton, Technology Mission on Jute & Mesta, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Technology Mission for the North East (TMNE) and Mega Seed Project implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Statement

Details of complaints of supply of spurious/sub-standard seeds received by Government of India for the last three years and action taken on such complaints

2009-10

Sl. No.	Name of State	Details of complaint	Action Taken
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1.	Punjab	Complaint from Shri Surjit Singh Bhati, Jalandhar (Punjab) in 2009 regarding potato mini tuber seed obtained from	Matter was analyzed and investigated by Central Potato Research Station, Jalandhar. First Information Report (FIR) has been registered against the party.

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		M/s. Technico Agri Sciences Ltd. alleging that the seed in question was not performing well.	Party has filed a writ petition (CWP No. 1838 of 2009) in the High Court of Punjab challenging the FIR. The State Government suspended the license on 25.05.2009. The party filed an appeal before the Appellate Authority (Director Agriculture). The Appellate Authority has granted an interim stay on suspension of license.
2.	Bihar	The Government of Bihar has also informed about poor setting of grain in hybrid Maize seeds supplied by Multinational companies in the year 2009-10.	After receipt of complaint, a team of scientists from Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa had visited the affected areas and reported that poor setting of grain in hybrid Maize seeds was due to unfavorable weather conditions. The State Government has advised the Seed companies to provide the sowing time and temperature sensitivity of Hybrid Maize on seed packet.

2010-11

1.	Chhattisgarh	Complaint regarding Paddy Hybrid (KRH-2) during Kharif-2010. Seed was distributed in 16 districts. Complaint	Eight committees consisting of officers from the State Department of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation (NSC) and Chhattisgarh Seed
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		<p>was received only from 8 districts regarding variation in plant height and difference in the time of flowering with sterility.</p>	<p>& Agriculture Development Corporation inspected the crop in these 8 Districts covering 86 blocks. Samples from the lots were drawn and submitted to the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore, Directorate of Rice Research and Project Director, Hyderabad for DNA finger printing test. On detailed testing/DNA finger printing about 47 sample of seeds supplied by the NSC (out of 106) were found to be below 95% purity. After discussions with State Government, NSC has refunded full cost of seed amounting to Rs. 201.70 lakh to Chhattisgarh State Seed & Agriculture Development Corporation Ltd. In addition State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC), Chhattisgarh at its meeting held on 10.05.2011, approved the proposal for carrying out rice and wheat demonstration @ cost of Rs. 1351.60 lakh during financial year 2011-12 for assisting the affected farmers under RKVY. It was also decided that a sum of Rs. 1051 lakh would</p>

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			be provided as assistance under the RKVY to the affected farmers. Thus, total amount of: Rs. 2604.30 lakhs has been provided by NSC as well as under RKVY for assisting the affected farmers. NSC has taken necessary steps to enforce strict quality control measures to ensure the quality of hybrid seeds.
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Complaint received from farmers in certain areas of Madhya Pradesh regarding delayed flowering and pod formation in certified seeds of black gram c.v. Azad-1 and Azad-2 during Kharif 2010.	The committee reported that delayed flowering and pod formation was due to photosensitive nature of variety and it was not directly related to the seed quality of black gram. Moreover, Government of Madhya Pradesh declared that delayed flowering and pod formations was due to natural calamity and have released the compensation to the farmers who have suffered losses.
3.	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana & Jharkhand	Complaint received from farmers in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Jharkhand farmers regarding poor pod bearing of black gram c.v. PU-30 and	After receipt of complaint, a team of scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur and IIPR Kanpur had visited the affected areas and reported that poor podding

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		PU-40 and sesame TKG - 55 during Kharif 2010.	was due to excess vegetative growth and not because of poor quality seeds.

2011-12

1.	Kerala	Complaint from Shri Sam Eapen, President, Upper Kuttanad Paddy farmers Committee, Tiruvalla, Kerala regarding poor germination and more chaffy paddy seeds distributed to farmers in Kuttanad in Alappuzha district of Kerala by National Seeds Corporation Limited.	After receipt of the complaint, Regional Manager, National Seeds Corporation Limited (NSC) visited the Kuttanad area of Kerala and collected the report on this issue. In the report, it was found that the seeds supplied by NSC were having slight insect damage and presence of chaffy seeds. The State Government reported that the affected seed quantity was replaced by NSC with fresh seed to the concerned farmers. NSC has further reported that the crop in the said areas have been harvested and farmers have received satisfactory yield.
2.	Maharashtra	Farmers from four villages of Dhule district of Maharashtra made complaints regarding yield loss in Bt. cotton hybrid "Surpass 1037" BG II due to severe infestation of Alternaria leaf blight disease. The	The complaint was investigated by the District Level Complaints Redressal Committee and a report was submitted to the Director Input & Quality Control. In the report, it was found that 164 farmers had suffered losses due to the attack of

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		seeds of this hybrid was produced and marketed by Bayer Bio Science Private Limited.	<p>Alternaria leaf blight disease. Based on the report, the Director Input & Quality Control, Government of Maharashtra passed an order to pay the compensation to the tune of Rs. 44,77,672/- to the affected farmers by Bayer Bio Science Private Limited. The matter has been challenged by the company and is now subjudice before Mumbai High Court.</p>
3.	Maharashtra	Complaints were received from the farmers of Khandesh, Marathwada and Vidharbha Region regarding germination problem of soybean seeds.	<p>The complaint was verified by Block Level Committee and the report was submitted to the District Level Committee under the Chairmanship of District Superintendent Agricultural Officer. The District level Committee had advised the Seed Companies to compensate the losses as per the merit of the cases. Accordingly, an amount of Rs. 2.02 crore have been distributed to the affected farmers. 76 Court Cases have been launched against the companies/dealers for failure in germination of Soybean seeds. Police case have also been filed against two companies which were selling Soybean seeds</p>

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			without licence. Show cause notices have also been issued to 68 Soybean companies".
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Farmers of 108 villages of Khargone district of Madhya Pradesh had made complaints for yield loss in Bt. cotton hybrid "Surpass 1037" BG II due to attack of Alternaria leaf blight disease and white fly insect. The seeds of this hybrid was produced and marketed by Bayer Bio Science Private Limited.	The State Government deputed a team which included Senior Agricultural Development Officers to visit the affected areas and thereafter the farmers were asked to prepare separate petitions for filing under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The affected farmers had filed 520 cases in District Consumer Forum, Khargone and 331 cases have been settled by the Forum in favour of the farmers by ordering a relief of Rs. 15,500/- per packet of Bt. cotton seed. Bayer Bio Science Private Limited has gone in appeal against the order in the State Consumer Forum.

Huge gap between purchase and selling price of milk

3884. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRI N. K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of milkman from neighbouring States like Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh protested recently at New Delhi against the huge gap between the purchase and selling price of milk;