Menace of bogus seeds

1457. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of media reports that a cotton farmer of Aalur village Palamur in Mahbubnagar district tried to commit suicide on April 16, 2016 for being unable to bear the loss caused by bogus seeds; and
- (b) if so, whether steps are being taken to check the menace of bogus seeds which is ruining the farmers' lives in rural economy if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The State Government of Telangana has reported that, they have taken cognizance of the incident and resolved the issue amicably with the concerned seed companies. Moreover, the State Government has reported that the loss of cotton crop was not due to bogus seeds but on account of climatic conditions.

Further, the State Government has taken adequate steps like creating awareness among the the farmers to purchase quality seeds from authorized and licensed dealers, enhancing capacity of a Seed Inspectors, single window diagnostic facility laboratory for testing of service sample, effective implementation of Seed Law Enforcement and formation of special squad at state level for surprise checks and inspection of seed dealer premises and processing units to curb the sale of spurious seeds in the Slate.