

Excessive use of imported and hybrid seeds

2274. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that local foodgrains are at the verge of extinction due to excessive use of imported and hybrid seeds of foodgrains in Maharashtra and other parts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) It is incorrect to say that local foodgrains are at the verge of extinction due to excessive use of imported and hybrid seeds of foodgrains in Maharashtra and other parts of the country. However, the area under the traditional varieties has reduced substantially due to adoption of locally developed high yielding varieties/hybrids which are of short duration and have superior yield, and better resistance to various biotic and abiotic stresses.

(b) The ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), has been making continuous efforts to explore, collect, characterize and safely conserve the native landraces including traditional varieties of all the crops species. The National Gene Bank at NBPGR presently holds 4,20,316 accessions of 1778 plant species and these accessions are accessible to the researchers in the country for use in crop improvement programme. During the last three years (2013-14 to 2015-16) 1,44,701 accessions of different crop species were provided to different institutes of ICAR and State Agricultural Universities for this purpose.

Production of wheat

†2275. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of wheat in the country has reduced this year;

(b) the production of wheat in the country during past five years, State-wise;

(c) the States in which production of wheat has reduced during last year and whether this has been evaluated; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the steps being taken to ensure that production of wheat increases or at least reaches at its earlier level in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) No, Sir. As per the Third Advance Estimates released on 9th May, 2016, total production of wheat in the country during 2015-16 is estimated at 94.04 million tonnes against the normal (previous five years' average) production of 91.53 million tonnes and last year's production of 86.53 million tonnes.

(b) State-wise details of production of wheat in the country during the past five years *i.e.* 2010-11 to 2014-15 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The production of wheat during 2014-15 in some major wheat growing States *viz.* Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh declined as compared to its production during the previous year *i.e.* 2013-14. The decline in production of wheat in the above States has been mainly on account of unseasonal rains/hailstorms during February-March, 2015.

(d) In order to increase production of wheat in the country, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/ Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM)- Wheat, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) etc.

To achieve higher productivity of agricultural crops including wheat, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting basic and strategic research relating to crop improvement, production and protection technologies suitable to different situations including development of location-specific varieties/hybrids and technologies.

Statement

State-wise details of Production of wheat during 2010-11 to 2014-15

| State | Production ('000 Tonnes) | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Assam | 52.8 | 60.3 | 44.2 | 40.4 | 28.8 |
| Bihar | 4097.6 | 4725.0 | 5357.2 | 4738.0 | 3987.0 |
| Chhattisgarh | 126.8 | 133.1 | 141.3 | 134.0 | 135.3 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Gujarat | 4019.5 | 4072.0 | 2944.0 | 4694.0 | 3059.0 |
| Haryana | 11630.0 | 12685.7 | 11117.0 | 11800.0 | 10354.0 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 546.5 | 595.8 | 608.6 | 670.7 | 646.5 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 446.3 | 500.3 | 462.4 | 601.9 | 314.3 |
| Jharkhand | 158.4 | 302.6 | 319.5 | 370.4 | 330.4 |
| Karnataka | 279.0 | 193.0 | 179.0 | 210.0 | 261.0 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 7627.1 | 11538.5 | 13133.4 | 12937.0 | 17103.9 |
| Maharashtra | 2301.0 | 1313.0 | 1181.0 | 1602.0 | 1308.0 |
| Punjab | 16472.0 | 17280.1 | 16591.0 | 17620.0 | 15050.0 |
| Rajasthan | 7214.5 | 9319.6 | 9275.5 | 8663.2 | 9823.9 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 30001.0 | 30292.6 | 30301.9 | 29890.9 | 22417.4 |
| Uttarakhand | 878.0 | 878.0 | 858.2 | 842.4 | 654.2 |
| West Bengal | 874.4 | 872.9 | 895.9 | 927.8 | 939.3 |
| Others | 149.1 | 119.5 | 96.4 | 107.0 | 113.8 |
| ALL INDIA | 86874.0 | 94882.1 | 93506.5 | 95849.8 | 865264 |

Suicide by farmers

2276. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- whether the number of farmers who committed suicide has gone up in 2015;
- if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise for the last three years;
- the reasons for farmers committing suicide; and
- the steps Government is taking to tackle rural distress in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicides upto 2014, are available at its website. The Reports for the subsequent years (*i.e.* 2015 onwards) have not been published yet. As per ADSI Reports, for, the years 2013 and 2014, the State-wise details of suicides have