

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
D.1.2	Setting up of organic certification bodies. One time assistance will be provided for hiring consultants for preparation of operating manuals, training and exposure of manpower and facilitating institutional set up. Cost of manpower to be borne by the State	₹ 500 lakh L.S. total

Study visit on agricultural activities

580. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of the University of Wisconsin of USA visited Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University in Hyderabad to study the aspects of agriculture related activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Dr. Rami A. Reddy, Coordinator and Professor of Agribusiness Programme, University of Wisconsin, Platteville, Wisconsin, USA and Mr. Steve Vale, President of Ag. Council from USA visited the Acharya N.G. Ranga University, Hyderabad on 12th October 2015, and again on 2nd January, 2016 along with a group of students from Agri-business Division, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Wisconsin, USA as a part of the course of study entitled "Agriculture and food market in India" to explore the possibility of collaboration between the two Universities for students as well as faculty exchange programme and collaborative activities.

Sale of unsafe and spurious aluminium foils

581. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has laid down parameters for the manufacturing of aluminium foils for wrapping food items and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that unsafe and spurious aluminium foils are being sold openly in Delhi;

(c) the number of aluminium foil samples lifted by Government for checking during the last two years and how many of them have been found impure and unfit for wrapping food items; and

(d) the details of measures taken by Government to educate consumers about ill effects of using sub-standard/spurious/impure aluminium foils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Sir, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formulated following Indian Standards for Aluminium foils:

- IS 15392:2003—Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy Bare Foil for Food Packaging
- IS 10257:1982—Aluminium Foil Stock
- IS 8970:1991—Aluminium Foil Laminates for Packaging
- IS 7161:1973—Vegetable Parchment or Grease Proof Paper/Aluminium Foil Laminate for Wrapping Butter
- IS 16011:2012—Aluminium and Aluminium Alloy Foil for Pharmaceutical Packaging

These Indian Standards are not under mandatory Certification and presently no manufacturer has obtained BIS licence for use of Standard Mark for the above product.

However, the material which are to be used for packaging of food items shall have to adhere to packaging requirement as prescribed under Regulation 2.1 of the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 which is being handled by FSSAI.

(d) FSSAI is creating awareness among the general public about adulteration in food products. FSSAI also joins awareness campaigns under “Jago Grahak Jago” with the Department of Consumer Affairs in respect of food items. BIS give publicity and also organizes programmes for consumers to make them aware of quality of ISI marked products and the activities of BIS in general.

Improving the farming of pulses and oilseeds

†582. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any special plan to promote the cultivation of pulses and oilseeds and to increase the productivity thereof;

(b) whether oilseed crops have been exhibited in the Krishi Vigyan Kendras of 300 districts of the country under this scheme;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.