

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1467**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 10/12/2021

**AVAILABILITY OF HIGH-YIELDING AND DISEASE RESISTANT SEEDS**

1467. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state:

- (a) whether high yield and disease-resistant varieties of seeds, cereals, oilseeds, vegetables, etc., would be available to the farmers in next three to four years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that even KVKs and District Agriculture Departments provide seeds developed a number of years ago by ICAR and other bodies to the farmers;
- (c) whether ICAR, Agricultural Institutions, outlets of National Seeds Corporation Ltd. and other Government controlled bodies do not have a proper mechanism to supply quality seeds to farmers; and
- (d) whether outlets of National Seeds Corporation keep stock of developed seeds?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE**  
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) The development of high yielding and disease-resistant seeds of cereals, oilseeds and vegetables etc. in the National Agricultural Research System under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is a continuous process. The seeds of such varieties are made available to farmers after completing the due process of breeder seed production and their conversion to foundation seed, certified seed/truthfully labelled seed in subsequent generations.
- (b) Generally, less than 15 years old varieties in oilseeds and pulses and 10 years old varieties in other crops are promoted through the various schemes of Government of India. However, only certified/quality seeds are provided to the farmers by various state and central government and their agencies including KVKs.
- (c) There is a proper system and mechanism for production and distribution of quality seeds to the farmers. ICAR Institutes, State and Central Agricultural Universities and KVKs directly make available the seeds from their sale counters in the Institute premises. National Seed Corporation Ltd. (NSCL) provides quality seeds to the farmers through its Regional Offices, Area Offices, Marketing Centres and dealers network spread throughout India. Apart from this, State Governments through their Agricultural Department and other agencies, also provide quality seeds to the farmers.
- (d) NSCL outlets maintain the stock of quality seeds as per the seasonal demand of State Governments, dealers and farmers.

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