

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1045
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
BAN ON MONSANTO INDIA LTD. FOR MAIZE SEED
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Bihar has banned Monsanto India Limited a subsidiary of the US multinational for selling sub-standard and contaminated Cargill Hybrid 900 M Maize seed, as they failed to germinate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total loss suffered by the farmers on this account and whether any compensation has been paid to the farmers by Monsanto India Limited;
- (d) whether any other State also experimented with the Cargill Hybrid 900 M Maize seed supplied by this company; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a & b): No, Sir. As per information received from Department of Agriculture, Government of Bihar and M/s. Monsanto India Limited, no quantity of maize seed under the brand name 'Cargill' has been sold by M/s Monsanto India Limited in Bihar during the year 2002-03. As per information received from Monsanto Company, Cargill Seeds India Ltd. was acquired by Monsanto Technologies India Limited on 1st April, 1999. Later, on 15th December, 2000, the name Monsanto Technologies India Limited was changed to Monsanto India Ltd. Till 2001 the seeds were sold under the brand name Cargill 900 M. Subsequently in 2001, the name Cargill 900 M was changed and the product marketed under brand name ASGROW 900 M. In May 2002, the brand name was again changed to 'Super 900 M', which is currently in use. Monsanto India Ltd. sold 2418.59 MTs of seeds of maize hybrids, including 1166.92 MTs of 900 M in the state of Bihar during Winter 2002-2003 season. No case of failure of maize seed of Hybrid 900 M on account of germination was reported to this Department.

(c): No case of the losses suffered by the farmers on account of failure of germination of maize seed of Monsanto India Ltd. in Bihar has been reported to this Deptt. According to the information made available by the company, no compensation to the farmers has been paid by the Monsanto India Ltd.

(d)&(e): As mentioned in reply of part a&b, as such no Cargill Hybrid 900 M Maize Seed was supplied by Monsanto India Limited to any of the State during winter 2002-2003 season. However, the seed of maize hybrid 900 M, Hishell and All Rounder was supplied by Monsanto India Ltd. in the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh in addition to Bihar, during the season 2002-2003.

The State-wise & Hybrid-wise details of quantities of seed sold by the company in these States are given as under :

RABI SEASON 2002-2003 (WINTER)

(Quantity in MT)

S.No.	States	900M	HiShell	All Rounder
1.	Maharashtra	120	100	100
2.	Karnataka	1500	150	300
3.	Tamil Nadu	600	400	20
4.	Andhra Pra.	650	350	100

5.	U.P.	60	50	40
6.	Gujarat	100	100	150
7	M.P.	200	50	50

No complaint in regard to the performance of these hybrids has been received by this Department from any of the above mentioned States.