

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:83
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003
SEEDS BUSINESS
SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether seeds business in the country is gradually being controlled by Multi-National Companies;
- (b) if so, the percentage of seeds business under the control of Multi-National Companies and the Indian seed companies, separately;
- (c) the shares of the Monsanto and Pro Agro in the business; and
- (d) the efforts made by ICAR to develop pure varieties that would have the advantages of hybrid but which could be produced and used by farmers themselves?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 83 DUE FOR REPLY ON 8TH DECEMBER, 2003.

(a): No, Sir.

(b): The organised sector accounts for only about 15% of the total seeds requirement of the country. The balance requirement is met by the unorganised sector and the seeds saved by the farmers. It is estimated that the share of multinational companies in the organised seeds business in India is less than 10%.

(c): The combined share of M/s Monsanto India Ltd. & Proagro in the organised seed business in India is estimated to be about 2.5%.

(d): ICAR has developed many high yielding varieties of seeds in a large number of crops. Even in cross-pollinated crops like maize, ICAR has developed synthetic and composites, which can be produced and used by farmers as seeds.