

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1369
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
PRODUCTION OF COTTON
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether per hectare production of cotton in India is much less than the cotton producing countries;
- (b) if so, the details of the cotton production per hectare in India;
- (c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the production per hectare of cotton in the country;
- (d) whether the production of cotton in the country is far below international norms; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken to provide high yielding varieties of cotton seeds to the cotton growers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) to (e): Table below gives yield (per hectare production) and production of cotton lint in India vis-à-vis other major cotton producing countries of the world in 2006:

Country	Yield of Cotton Lint (Kg/Hectare)	Production of Cotton Lint (Lakh Tonnes)
India	400	35.64
China	1243	67.30
United States of America	805	44.98
Pakistan	705	21.87
Brazil	958	12.10
Uzbekistan	795	11.71

Source: FAO website accessed on 22.11.2007

While the per hectare production of cotton in India is much less than the major cotton producing countries of the world, India ranked third in the production of cotton lint in 2006.

A Technology Mission on Cotton is under implementation in the cotton growing States of the country since 2000-01 for increasing the productivity and production of cotton by focusing on increasing availability of cotton seeds, covering more area under hybrids, thrust for evolving area specific technology, popularization of integrated pest management, increasing efficient use of irrigation water, field demonstrations for transfer of technology to farmers and farmers' training.

The Central Institute for Cotton Research and the Centres of the All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project are developing high yielding varieties/ hybrids to increase the production of cotton in the country. These organizations also produce breeder seeds of varieties and parental lines of hybrids for further multiplication by seed producing agencies for supply of certified seeds to cotton growers.