

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1310

ANSWERED ON:27.10.2008

LOSSES TO COTTON CROP

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Cotton Crop has been adversely affected by early rains and floods in various parts of the country during the current season;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has made any assessment to evaluate the loss suffered to cotton crops in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): As per information received from cotton growing State. There is no production loss to the cotton crops due to early rains and floods in various parts of the country during the current season except in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

The details as per the assessment made by these State are as under:

Andhra Pradesh

The cotton area with a production loss of more than 50% is reported to be 26314 hectare affecting 53219 small & marginal and 2434 other farmers.

Karnataka

The cotton area to the extent of 14282.12 hectare is affected with an estimated financial loss of Rs.7.764 crores. Farmers were advised to drain out the excess water and also to top dress the crop with urea for the recovery of the affected crop.

Maharashtra

The cotton area of 1588.64 hectare has been affecting due to heavy rains and floods during July and August 2008.

Gujarat

The cotton area of 1.26 lakh hectare has been affecting due to rains and floods in the State.

Besides advisories given to farmers to mitigate losses, the Government has also taken other remedial steps in this regard. The affected small & marginal and other farmers whose cotton crop suffered with a production loss of more than 50%, are entitled for relief from Calamity Relief Funds (CRF) as per the norms and conditions of the Scheme. The farmers are also entitled for compensation under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) who have ensured their cotton crop against natural calamities.