

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:170  
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010  
COTTON PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT CENTRE  
Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the production of cotton in the country, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the number of procurement centres opened/to be opened in the country with the assistance of Cotton Corporation of India and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED); and
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure timely payment of procured agricultural produce including cotton by the procuring agencies?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

- (a): The State-wise and year-wise details of estimates of cotton production in the country during 2006-07 to 2009-2010 are given in the Annexure.
- (b): Cotton Corporation of India has proposed to operate 306 procurement centres in all the cotton growing States during the current cotton season 2009-10. However, depending on the intensity of MSP operations, the Corporation has so far operated 202 procurement centres across the cotton growing States. On the other hand NAFED has opened 90 and 5 procurement centres in the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh respectively.
- (c): Cotton Corporation of India is ensuring payment to the cotton farmers within 7-10 days through crossed cheques in favour of cotton farmers as well as through ECS/RTGS in cases where farmers bank details are available. NAFED has also instructed the State Level Agencies (SLA) and Cooperative Societies to workout modalities so that farmers can be paid price of their produce within 3-7 days by way of Account Payee Cheques.