

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1949
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010
SEEDS PRODUCTION
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any promotional scheme has been formulated by the Government for producing traditional and indigenous seeds to deal with the drought situation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Bt. Cotton seeds have any adverse effect on the production of cotton;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to provide assistance to the farmers in this regard?

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)&(b): Several existing schemes of the Government provide assistance for seeds including seeds of short and medium duration to deal with the drought situation. The details are at Annexure-I.
- (c) to (e): No such report has been received by Government. However, area under BT Cotton has increased from 29,000 hectares in 2002 to 70 lakh hectares (anticipated) in 2009-10.