

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2653
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2010
LEGISLATION FOR SALE OF COTTON SEEDS
Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain State Governments including Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra have come up with their own legislations for regulation of quality and sale of cotton seeds and to have effective monitoring of the Bt. Cotton pricing to the advantage of poor Indian farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government 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): Out of nine major cotton growing States only three viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra have sought to regulate Bt. Cotton prices within their States through Ordinances/ Acts.

(c): There is no provision in the Seeds Act 1966, for price regulation. Seed is an essential commodity in terms of Seeds (Control) Order 1983 issued in exercise of powers available under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, but it is only for purposes of quality control. Price regulation is not provided for. Further, there is no provision for price control in Seeds Bill 2004.