

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1502  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010  
PRICE OF BT. COTTON  
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether Bt. Cotton seeds companies have requested for increasing the price of Bollgard-1 and Bollgard-2 varieties of Bt. Cotton being sold in major cotton producing States including Gujarat, Maharashtra and Punjab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Some of the Bt. Cotton Seeds companies through National Seed Association of India, New Delhi requested major cotton producing States including Gujarat and Maharashtra for increasing the price of Bollgard-1 and Bollgard-2 from Rs.650 to Rs.750 and Rs.750 to Rs.925 Bt. Cotton seed per packet of 450 grams of cotton seeds. The increase in price was requested on account of increase in cost of production, labour, inputs and enhancement of minimum support prices of cotton during the last few years. However, the State Governments did not consider their request favourably.

(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 only for purposes of quality control and price regulation is not provided for. Further, there is no provision for price control in Seeds Bill 2004.