

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:333
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009
COTTON TECHNOLOGY FUND
Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been adverse impact on the production of high quality cotton due to insufficient cotton technology fund;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by 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) to (c): No, Madam. The fund available for Technology Mission on Cotton consisting of four Mini Missions viz Mini Mission-I, Mini Mission-II, Mini Mission-III and Mini-Mission-IV, are quite sufficient and there is no adverse impact on production of high quality cotton. Mini Mission-I dealing with research is implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), while Mini Mission-II for extension & Developmental activities is dealt by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Mini Mission-III is for the developing marking infrastructure and Mini Mission-IV on modernization of ginning and pressing factories to improve quality of cotton are implemented by Ministry of Textiles.

The fund allocated for Technology Mission on Cotton during the last eight years are as under indicating the quantum of funds required was provided by the Government

Year Allocation(Rs. in crores)

2001-02 73.00

2002-03 54.00

2003-04 72.00

2004-05 103.00

2005-06 134.00

2006-07 178.00

2007-08 155.00

2008-09 146.00

The above efforts helped in significant increase in cotton production during the above mentioned years, which is given below:

Year Cotton lint production
(Lakh Bales of 170 kg each)

2001-02 99.27

2002-03 86.24

2003-04 137.29

2004-05 164.29

2005-06 184.99

2006-07 226.32

2007-08 258.84

2008-09 232.68

(provisional)

Besides, the implementation of Mini Mission-III and Mini Mission-IV has helped in improving cotton quality. The trash content in cotton has decreased significantly from 6-7% to 1-2% with uniform bales during above period.