

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:128

ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010

PRODUCTIVITY OF COTTON

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy ;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the production and productivity of cotton during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the productivity of cotton is lesser in comparison to other cotton producing countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the productivity of cotton?

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): State-wise details of production and productivity of cotton in the country during the last three years and the current year, i.e., 2007-08 to 2010-11 are given in the Annexure.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. Details of average yield of cotton in selected cotton producing countries are as under:

Year Yield of cotton (Kg. lint per hectare)
China USA India World

1980-81	550	453	169	411
1990-91	807	711	267	574
2000-01	1093	1008	278	612
2006-07	1286	912	521	770
2007-08	1278	985	560	797
2008-09	1270	911	526	767
2009-10	1260	868	502	725

Source: Cotton Advisory Board, M/o Textile

The low yield of cotton in India is attributable to the following factors:-

In all other countries cotton is an irrigated crop whereas in India hardly 35-40% of the cotton is under irrigation. Therefore, the scopes of adopting balanced nutrition are limited.

Nearly 70 per cent cotton cultivation are subject to heavy vagaries of monsoon rain.

Relatively higher intensity of insects and pests attack.

Resource poor, small holding and 80% shallow and marginal land farmers.

Continuous presence of cotton in the subcontinent also makes it easy for pests, disease and other biotic stress agents which survive, multiply and causes frequent epidemics.

The paucity of quality seeds, high cost of cultivation, multiplicity of varieties and indiscriminate use of pesticides are the other reasons for low productivity of cotton in the country.

(d): In order to increase production, productivity and improve the quality of cotton, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton in various cotton growing States in the country. Under the scheme assistance is provided to increase production and productivity of cotton. The main components of Mini Mission-II are production and supply of seeds of varieties/ hybrids which are released & notified during last 15 years, transfer of technology through frontline demonstrations as well as training of farmers through Farmers Field Schools and training of extension workers, establishment/strengthening of bio-agent production units, plant protection measures like Insecticide Resistance Management (IRM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), demonstration, surveillance of diseases & pests and supply of sprayers/ pheromones/bio-agents/ bio-pesticides and supply of water

saving devices like sprinkler and drip irrigation.

Further, for enhancing the productivity of cotton in the country, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cotton which is operating across ten major Cotton growing States in the country with specific mandate to develop high yielding varieties and hybrids of cotton and related cotton production and protection technologies. Central Institute for Cotton Research at Nagpur with Regional Stations at Coimbatore and Sirsa is conducting basic and strategic research on cotton.

Development of improved high yielding cotton varieties/hybrids with specific adaptability to different agro climatic conditions, quality breeder seed production, development of suitable cost effective agronomic package of practices, moisture conservation measures, water saving modules and drought tolerant cotton genotypes besides cotton crop protection strategies etc., have been developed by ICAR. In addition, for dissemination of information about high yielding varieties/ hybrids, Front Line Demonstrations are conducted in Farmers` fields through its Centres located across cotton growing states of the country.