

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3342
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010
COTTON ACREAGE
Tanwar Shri Ashok

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the area under cotton cultivation has increased this year;
- (b) if so, the manner in which this increase in acreage is likely to be capitalized to make a mark in the world cotton production and export;
- (c) the extent to which Bt-Cotton helps in reducing the use of pesticides; and
- (d) the details of cotton acreage before introduction of Bt-Cotton in the country and the present cotton acreage, State-wise?

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): Yes, Madam. The area under cultivation of cotton has increased from 91.32 lakh ha. in 2001-02 to 110.00 lakh ha. in 2010-11 (1st Advance Estimate).
- (b): The area coverage under cotton in the country during current year is estimated at about 110.00 lakh ha. with production of 335.00 lakh bales (1st advance estimates) which will be a record and is expected to capitalise to make a mark in the world cotton production and export.
- (c): It has been estimated that there is reduction of about 39% in pesticide use due to the introduction of Bt. Cotton
- (d): The area under Cotton before introduction of Bt. Cotton was 91.32 lakh ha in 2001-02 which has increased to 110.00 lakh ha during 2010-11 (1st advance estimates). The State-wise area coverage under cotton during 2001-02 and 2010-11 is given at Annexure.