

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:204  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011  
CULTIVATION OF Bt. COTTON  
Saha Shri Anup Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur has conducted any study regarding the efficacy of cultivation of Bt. Cotton in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the area under cultivation of Bt. Cotton, during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether inspite of tests like Bio-safety, Environment safety, Risk Assessment tests etc. there are reports that the cultivation of Bt. Cotton is affecting the farmers adversely; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 204 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16/08/2011 REGARDING "CULTIVATION OF Bt. COTTON"

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Studies conducted by Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur showed that Bt Cotton has been effective in controlling bollworms to an extent of 60 to 100% and that cultivation of Bt cotton has resulted in 90% reduction of insecticide use for Bollworm control and from 46% in 2001 to 21% in 2010 in respect of total insecticides. Analysis of economic benefits shoed that farmers gained at least at an average of Rs. 10,000/- per hectare (Rupees Ten Thousand) due to reduction in pesticide use and increase in yield because of prevention of bollworm damage due to the cultivation of Bt cotton.

(c) The area under cultivation of Bt cotton in the country was 68.8 lakh hectares, 80.55 lakh hectares and 95.5 lakh hectares during the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, respectively. The details of State-wise and year-wise area of Bt cotton are provided in Annexure I.

(d) No scientifically credible report has come to the notice of the Department.

(e) Question does not arise.