

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2392

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011

PRODUCTION OF BT. COTTON

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the sown area under cotton, especially Bt. Cotton has increased in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of the increase in sown area during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether due to the said reasons, the demand for cotton seeds has increased;
- (d) if so, the status of availability of the cotton seeds in the country; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to make available adequate cotton seeds including Bt. Cotton seeds in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The sown area under Bt. Cotton has increased from 66.69 lakh hectares in 2008-09 to 93.36 lakh hectares in 2010-11 and in 2011-12 it is expected to increase to 95.04 lakh hectares. State wise details of sown area for the last three years and the current year is at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The demand for cotton seeds has increased from 1.95 lakh quintals in 2009-10 to 2.30 lakh quintals during Kharif 2011. The availability position against the requirement in the country is as under:

(Quantity in Lakh Quintals)

Year	Requirement	Availability
2009-2010	1.95	2.43
2010-2011	1.99	2.60
Kharif 2011	2.30	2.62

(e): Under Technology Mission on Cotton, Government provides assistance for cotton seed production and distribution as under:

- (i) 50% of the cost or Rs.50/- per kg. whichever is less for foundation seed production.
- (ii) 25% of the cost or Rs.15/- per kg. whichever is less for certified seed production.
- (iii) Rs.20/- per kg. for certified seed distribution.
- (iv) 50% of the cost of seed treatment limited to Rs.40/- per kg.