

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5824
ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011
NON AVAILABILITY OF RAW MATERIALS
Tagore Shri Manicka

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that the Chhattirappatti in Kamraj District of Tamil Nadu, famous for production of cotton medicated bandages, is now facing lot of difficulties due to non-availability of raw materials and high price of cotton for production of cotton medicated bandages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to save the medicated bandage production industries and its employees;
- (d) whether any financial assistance is being given by the Union Government to revamp these industries;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b): There is no specific information available in this regard. However, as per the information available from the Ministry of Textiles the Cotton season 2010-11 witnessed unprecedented volatility in domestic and international cotton prices. Domestic cotton prices increased from Rs. 37700/candy in October 2010 and reached a peak level of Rs. 62400/ candy in the month of March 2011, From April, 2011 prices declined due to demand contraction. Cotton prices declined from Rs. 62400 candy to Rs, 29500/candy by July 2011.

It has also been informed by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation that the Cotton production in India has increased from 95.24 lakh bales in 2000-01 to 334.25 lakh bales during 2010-11 (4th Advance Estimates).

(c) to (f): As per the information available from the Ministry of Textiles the Govt. has taken various initiatives to promote technical textile sector including medical textiles. Under the Scheme for Growth and Development of Technical Textiles (SGDTT) launched during 2007-08 of XIth Five Year Plan, Government has designated South India Textile Research Association (S1TRA) at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu as Centre of Excellence (COE) in Medical Textiles with the fund support of Rs. 11 crore. Further, the Government has launched the Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT) with two mini- missions for a period of five years (from 2010-11 to 2014-15) with a fund outlay of Rs. 200 crore. in which, additional fund of Rs. 14 crore has been allocated for upgradation of COE: medical textile for creating incremental facilities like Facilities for indigenous development of prototypes, Incubation Centre and recurring expenditure for appointment of experts for initial three years.

Further, as per the information available from the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation - to increase production and productivity of cotton, Mini-Mission II of Technology Mission on Cotton is implemented by that Department, in major cotton growing States including Tamil Nadu. The expenditure on most components is shared by Government of India and States on 75:25 basis. However, components implemented by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and others are funded 100%by Government of India.