

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3006  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011  
COTTON PRODUCTION  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether farmers in Andhra Pradesh have shifted from chilli and tobacco production to cotton production in the recent years;
- (b) if so, whether the total acreage under cotton has gone up from 13.51 lakh hectares to 18.55 lakh hectares in the current year;
- (c) whether due to scanty rainfall and erratic power supply the production of cotton in Andhra Pradesh is likely to plunge;
- (d) the total cotton production estimated by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in the current year as compared to last year; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to help farmers in cotton production?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As per the data of the State Department of Agriculture, the normal cotton area in Andhra Pradesh is 13.50 lakh ha and has increased to 18.78 lakh ha in 2011-12. The farmers of Warangal, Khammam and Guntur district have shifted from Chilli to Cotton.

(c): The Cotton growing region of Andhra Pradesh suffered sever drought (14% deficit rainfall) in the month of September. During October and November the deficit rainfall was -52% and -47% respectively, which affected total cotton production. As per State Government an estimated area of 6.62 lakh ha cotton area dried up due to drought.

(d): The production estimate of cotton as per the State Government during 2011-12 is likely to be 35.00 lakh bales as compared to 39.16 lakh bales during 2010-11.

(e): Under Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton, assistance is provided to the farmers on various inputs like seeds, agricultural implements, water-saving devices, bio-agents / bio-pesticides, integrated pest management, transfer of crop production and plant protection technologies through demonstrations, farmers field schools, training of farmers etc. to promote cultivation and production of cotton.