

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5280
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012
HYBRID COTTON
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are several companies working on newer genes to introduce new variety of hybrid cotton in the market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the suggestions received from the State Governments in this regard; and
- (c) the funds spent so far on the said project?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The list of companies working on newer genes and permitted to conduct field trials on transgenic cotton hybrids with new genes/events is enclosed at Annexure I. The Ministry of Environment and Forest which is the nodal ministry for approval of proposals relating to GM crops including experimental field trials has not received any suggestion from the State Governments specific to Bt. cotton.

(c): The details of funds provided by the Department of Biotechnology to seeds companies working on newer genes to introduce new variety of hybrid cotton through R&D Projects under Biotechnology Industry Partnership Programme (BIPP) and Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI) programmes are given at Annexure II.