

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:550  
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012  
FAILURE OF COTTON CROPS  
Jeyadural Shri S. R.

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

- (a) whether there are reports of failure of traditional cotton/Bt. cotton crops in cotton growing States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (d) whether a decline in the cultivation of cotton per hectare has been registered in these States during the XIth Five Year Plan period;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) the remedial measures taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 550 DUE FOR REPLY ON 15TH MAY, 2012.

(a): Cotton production during 2011-12 as per 3rd advance estimates was about 6.66% higher over 2010-11 with highest area coverage of about 121.78 lakh ha. Some crop damages were noticed in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra due to drought at vegetative and reproductive stage of crop growth leading to reduction in total production of cotton in these two states.

(b) & (c): Andhra Pradesh experienced erratic rainfall during South West Monsoon 2011 (June-September), as a result of which cotton production in the state in 2011-12 was 49.00 lakh bales (as per 3rd advance estimates) compared to 53.00 lakh bales in 2010-11. Cotton crop in Maharashtra during 2011-12 also faced severe moisture stress due to long dry spell resulting in decline in production to 72.00 lakh bales in 2011-12 (as per 3rd advance estimates) compared to 85.00 lakh bales in 2010-11. Both the States declared drought and requested for central assistance. Andhra Pradesh has been sanctioned central assistance of Rs.706.15 crores subject to 75% balance in SDRF account of the State.

(d) & (e): There was no decline in cultivation of cotton area in the country. Area under cotton, which was 94.14 lakh ha in 2007-08 increased to 121.78 lakh ha in 2011-12. In Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra cotton area increased from 11.34 to 18.79 lakh ha and 31.95 to 41.25 lakh ha during 2007-08 and 2011-12, respectively.

(f): Government of India is implementing Mini Mission II of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) to increase the production and productivity of cotton in the country by way of providing assistance on various interventions, like production & distribution of certified seeds, training of farmers & extension officials, Farmers Field School, Front Line Demonstrations, supply of Pheromone traps / bio-agents / bio-pesticides / drip / sprinkler / sprayers etc.