

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:141  
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012  
PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY OF COTTON  
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the production and productivity of cotton per hectare registered in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the cost of production of cotton has significantly increased in the country during the above period;
- (c) if so, the rate of increase in the prices of seeds, fertilisers, pesticides etc. during the said period and its impact on the profitability of the farmers; and
- (d) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to promote cotton cultivation and to improve the condition of cotton growers in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 141 DUE FOR REPLY ON 21ST AUGUST, 2012.

(a): Details of production and productivity per hectare of cotton in the country during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 are as under:

Year	Production (Lakh bales of 170 Kgs. Each)	Yield (Kg/Hect.)
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2009-10	240.22	403
2010-11	330.00	499
2011-12#	352.00	491

# 4th advance estimates

First Advance Estimates of Production of cotton for 2012-13 are scheduled for release in the month of September, 2012.

(b) & (c): The estimated cost of production of cotton in the country has increased from Rs.2111/- per quintal in 2009-10 to Rs.2772/- per quintal in 2012-13 i.e. an increase of 31.31%. In terms of the average annual Wholesale Price Indices (Base: 2004-05 = 100), the percentage increase in the prices of major inputs for cotton production viz. seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, diesel, electricity and agricultural machinery & implements during the calendar years 2009-12 is given in the table below:

Input	Wholesale Price Indices (Base:2004-05=100)				Percentage increase in
	2009	2010	2011	2012(Jan-Jul)	2012 over 2009

Cotton seed	129.2	132.8	141.7	145.5	12.6
Fertilizers	107.7	114.2	127.4	142.2	32.0
Pesticides	111.1	113.0	114.2	118.0	6.2
High Speed Diesel	130.3	147.9	161.0	167.8	28.8
Electricity (Agriculture)	113.8	123.3	130.5	135.7	19.2
Agricultural Machinery & Implements	121.2	132.7	133.3	135.9	12.1

Government announces the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops on the basis of recommendations of Commission for

Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) which considers a number of important factors such as cost of production, changes in input prices, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, etc. The MSP for cotton has been increased over the years. For 2009-10 season, MSPs for Medium Staple and Long Staple varieties of cotton were fixed at Rs.2500/- per quintal and Rs.3000/- per quintal respectively against their all-India weighted average cost of production of Rs. 2111/- per quintal. For 2012-13 season, the MSPs for Medium Staple and Long Staple varieties of cotton have been fixed at Rs.3600/- and Rs.3900/- per quintal respectively which provide adequate margins over and above their all-India weighted average cost of production of Rs.2772/- per quintal.

(d): To improve production, productivity and quality of cotton, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) in 13 cotton growing States in the country under which assistance is provided to farmers for seeds, agriculture implements, water-saving devices, bio-agents/bio-pesticides, integrated pest management, demonstrations, training, etc. Further, Indian council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) implements All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cotton with specific mandate to develop high yielding varieties and hybrids of cotton and related cotton production and protection technologies. Central Institute for Cotton Research at Nagpur is conducting basic and strategic research on cotton.