

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3777  
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012  
SALE OF BT. COTTON SEEDS  
Das Shri Khagen

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

- (a) the details of companies which are authorised for selling/marketing Bt. Cotton seeds in the country;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that these companies are exploiting farmers, promoting black marketing and ignoring rules in selling Bt. cotton seeds to farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken against these companies for such malafide activities?

**Answer**

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

(a): As per information furnished by the State Governments, there are 71 main Bt. Cotton seed companies selling/marketing Bt. Cotton seeds as detailed at Annexure-I.

(b) to (d): Incidence of irregularities have been reported in the state of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

Maharashtra has informed that there were irregularities in supply of Bt. Cotton seeds made by Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company Limited, Jalna. There were also complaints of non submission of entire production plan, reservations in submission of sale plan to the Government, failure on part of the company to supply demanded quantity of cotton seed to the farmers and black marketing of Bt. Cotton seed by the dealers of company. Consequently, the cotton seed selling licence of Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company Limited, Jalna was cancelled by the Controller, Government of Maharashtra w.e.f. 7.8.2012.

Andhra Pradesh has reported that some of the dealers sold seeds pertaining to M/s Mahyco and other companies at higher prices than the Minimum Retail Price (MRP). Accordingly, the State Department of Agriculture deputed squads to curb the flow of spurious seeds. Cotton seeds distribution was done under close supervision of the District Collectors to minimize the activities of black marketing of seeds. A total quantity of 567 quintals, worth Rs.409 lakhs of spurious seeds were seized and appropriate action against defaulters was taken. Twenty five persons were arrested and eighteen licenses of the defaulted dealers were suspended/cancelled. Forty seven cases were booked under various sections.