

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:204

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013

PRODUCTIVITY OF BT. COTTON

Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil;Singh Shri Yashvir

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Cotton Advisory Board under the Ministry of Textiles has conducted any study to assess the production and productivity of Bt. cotton in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the findings thereof along with the reaction of the Ministry thereto;
- (c) whether there are reports of failure of Bt. cotton in the cotton growing States during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage research and development for improving the production and productivity of the genetically modified Bt. cotton and to prevent crop failure?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 204 DUE FOR REPLY ON 12TH MARCH, 2013.

- (a) No, Madam.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) No, Madam. The production of cotton increased from 240.22 lakh bales in 2009-10 to 352 lakh bales in 2011-12. As per the 2nd advance estimates, the production of cotton during 2012-13 is estimated at 338 lakh bales despite rainfall deficiency in several cotton growing regions.

(e) Research and Development for improving the production and productivity of cotton, including Bt. Cotton is being encouraged under Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) by Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE) through Central Institute of Cotton Research, (CICR) Nagpur. Further, DARE is also implementing All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project (AICCIIP) to develop new varieties & production technologies in cotton.