GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2332
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013
HYBRID COTTON SEEDS
Joshi Shri Mahesh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the prices of hybrid seeds of cotton and ordinary cotton seeds separately during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the use of hybrid cotton seeds is not remunerative to the farmers inspite of the rising prices of cotton;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide hybrid cotton seeds at reasonable prices and to ensure remunerative price of cotton to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) Hybrid cotton grown in the country are essentially Bt. Hybrid cotton and covers around 90% of the total area under cotton cultivation. The remaining 10% area is under non Bt. varieties including desi cotton, for which farmers largely use farm saved seeds. The cost of Bt. hybrid cotton seed during the last 3 years & current year is as under:-

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        (Rs. per Pkt)
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	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
BG-I	650-750	650-750	825-830	825-830
BG-II	750-925	750-925	930-1000	930-1000

Bt. cotton packet of 450 gm + 120gms refugia
Price of non Bt varieties seed varies between Rs. 120-150/kg.

(b) & (c) Bt. hybrid cotton is giving higher yield and more income to the farmers compared to non-Bt. cotton. The per ha income of farmers, which was Rs. 7058/- in 2001 increased to Rs. 16125/- in 2010 under rainfed and Rs. 25000/- under irrigated conditions, respectively.

(d) Before the start of the season the respective State Governments fix price of Bt. cotton hybrid under their cotton seed regulation, supply & price Act in consultation with the seed companies. In order to ensure remunerative price to the cotton growing farmers, Commission for Agriculture Cost and Price (CACP) fixes the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton every year.