

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:104

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

CULTIVATION OF COTTON

Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production and the area under cultivation of cotton have declined in certain parts of the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether there has been a significant increase in the input cost of cotton cultivation and thereby cotton farming has become unremunerative;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the incentives given/proposed to be given to the farmers to encourage them for cotton farming in the country?

Answer

MINISTER 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. 104 DUE FOR REPLY ON 13TH AUGUST, 2013.

(a) & (b): State-wise details of production and area under cultivation of cotton from 2009-10 onwards are given at Annexure-A.

(c) to (e): The average annual Wholesale Price Indices (Base 2004-05=100) in respect of major inputs for cotton production viz. seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, diesel, electricity and agricultural machinery & implements during the calendar years 2009 to 2013 are given at Annexure-B.

The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops are fixed by the Government after taking into account the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments as well as other relevant factors. CACP 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. while making its recommendations. The MSP for cotton has accordingly been increased from the level of Rs. 2500/- per quintal and Rs. 3000/- per quintal respectively for Medium Staple and Long Staple cotton in 2009-10 to Rs. 3700/- and Rs. 4000/- per quintal in 2013-14 so as to provide adequate margins over and above the average cost of production.

Ministry of Agriculture also implements 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.