

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:700

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013

COTTON SEEDS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cotton Seed was removed from the list of the Essential Commodities Act on 12.02.2007 and reintroduced in the list of the said Act in the interest of the cotton producing farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any rules to regulate supply, distribution, sale and price of BT cotton seeds to safeguard the interest of farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Cotton seeds were brought under the purview of the essential commodities Act, 1955 by notification issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs since 22.12.2009 to protect the interest of cotton producing farmers by regulating the production, supply, distribution of quality of cotton seeds including Bt. Cotton.

(c) & (d): The supply, distribution and sale of Bt. Cotton seed is regulated by the Seeds Act, 1966, the Seed Rules, 1968 and the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. However, in the said legislations, there is no provision for regulating price of seeds including Bt. Cotton seed.