

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:827

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2016

Training on GM Crops

Malyadri Shri Sriram

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has any plan to grow the Genetically Modified (GM) crops across the country by providing training to farmers free of cost, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): The Government of India has approved the commercial cultivation of Bt cotton in 2002. Following approval, ICAR - Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur and All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton developed packages of practice for cultivation of Bt-Cotton in various agro-ecological regions for the farmers to raise the good crop. The training is being imparted through Bt- technology demonstrations at the Institute / State Agriculture University (SAU) campuses, Front Line Demonstrations, organizing Field days and Krishi Melas on farmers' fields. Under e-kapas, 72,419 messages and alerts were regularly sent to farmers during the crop season 2015-16 giving advice and recommendations for successful cultivation depending upon the prevalent weather data and pest status. Besides, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is also providing trainings through various programmes.

The ICAR has launched Network Project on Transgenics in Crops (NPTC) since X Plan and a number of crops are transformed with trait-specific genes of economic importance in a network mode involving SAUs and ICAR Institutes.

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