

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5181
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27TH MARCH, 2018

PRICE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED BT COTTON SEEDS

5181. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to slash the price of genetically modified Bt cotton seeds as well as trait fees payable by domestic seed companies to technology developers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the seed producing companies in this regard;
- (c) whether there are heavy losses suffered by cotton farmers in various parts of the country due to pest attack;
- (d) if so, the cotton crops affected and the estimated loss suffered during each of the last three years and the current year due to pest attack, State/UT-wise and the details of relief provided to the affected States during the said period; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the crops from pest attack in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Government has reduced the price of genetically modified BG-II, Bt. Cotton for 2018-19 from Rs.800/- to Rs.740/- per packet of 450 grams (including trait fee). Trait fee has also been reduced from Rs.49/- to Rs.39/- during 2018.

(c) & (d): During Kharif, 2015 whitefly infestation was reported in cotton crop in the State of Punjab and Haryana. Punjab and Haryana Government has reported an area of 3.39 lakh hectare and 5.8 lakh hectare under the cotton crop during 2015-16. Approximately, all the cultivated area was affected in Punjab. However, in Haryana losses of more than 50% were reported in 0.25 lakh hectare, whereas less than 50% losses were reported in 5.28 lakh hectare.

Contd...2/-

As per the information received from the Punjab and Haryana Government, an amount of Rs. 669 crore and Rs. 967 crore respectively has been paid as compensation to the affected farmers.

State of Maharashtra has reported outbreak of Pink Boll Worm in 35.11 Lakh hectares during 2017-18. State Govt. has announced relief @Rs.6,800/- per hectare for rainfed area and @Rs 13,500/- per hectares for irrigated area limited upto 2 hectares.

(e): Farmers are educated/ trained to adapt preventive measures and follow the advisory issued by ICAR/SAUs to protect the crops from pest attack.
