

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3882**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2018

**Cultivation of non-approved Bt. Cotton**

3882. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a non-approved third kind of Bt. cotton is being cultivated in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is preparing to conduct an in-depth investigation on the availability of such non-permitted Bt. cotton seeds in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) & (b) There have been several media reports and complaints regarding illegal / unauthorized cultivation of Herbicide Tolerant (HT) cotton (also referred to as BG-III) in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

(c) & (d) A Field Inspection and Scientific Evaluation Committee (FISEC) has been constituted by Department of Biotechnology, for on-the-spot inspection of the cotton fields to assess the veracity of spread of unapproved HT cotton in the country. It shall cover details such as presence of genes, strategies and measures to contain etc.

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