

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1293**  
ANSWERED ON- 06/12/2024

**INITIATIVES TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF KASTURI COTTON**

1293. DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any special initiatives have been taken to increase the production of Kasturi Cotton India in Maharashtra and Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details of the measures implemented to support local farmers in these States;
- (c) whether any achievements have been recorded since the launch of Kasturi Cotton India in November 2023; and
- (d) if so, whether these achievements include increase in the income of farmers in Maharashtra and Gujarat; the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES  
(SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA)

**(a) & (b):** The Kasturi Cotton Bharat is a traceability, certification and branding initiative for lint cotton bales, focusing on post-harvest processes. To raise awareness about the premium potential for cotton meeting Kasturi standards, multiple seminars and workshops were organized across various States. As of 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2024, 464 units have been on-boarded, including 374 ginners and 90 supply chain members, with Maharashtra and Gujarat contributing 149 and 87 units, respectively.

**(c) & (d):** A website has been launched for providing information and timely updates on this initiative. Further, a certification protocol has been finalized for standardizing 29 mm and 30 mm long-staple cotton. As of 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2024, a total of 47,600 bales have been certified as 'Kasturi' Cotton including 3,200 bales and 800 bales of Maharashtra and Gujarat, respectively.

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