

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-793
ANSWERED ON- 25/07/2025

ENHANCING COTTON PRODUCTIVITY AND STRENGTHENING TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

793. SHRI MANAN KUMAR MISHRA:

SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:

SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives undertaken to enhance cotton productivity and quality, promote innovation and strengthen the entire textile value chain in alignment with the Vision 2030 target of achieving a USD 350 billion textile industry;
- (b) whether Government is planning to facilitate collaboration among farmers, industry and research bodies to strengthen the entire cotton value chain;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the specific measures that are being taken in Gujarat to enhance cotton production and textile innovation; and
- (e) the manner in which Gujarat's contribution align with the Vision 2030 target, and the expected outcome?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a): To enhance cotton productivity and quality, promote innovation and strengthen the entire textile value chain in line with the Vision 2030, a five-year 'Mission for Cotton Productivity' was announced by Hon'ble Finance Minister in her budget speech 2025-26. The Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE) is the nodal department for implementing the Mission, with the Ministry of Textiles as a partner. The Mission aims to boost cotton production through strategic interventions, including research and extension activities across all cotton-growing states. The Mission also proposes to focus on developing climate-smart, pest-resistant, and high-yielding cotton varieties, including Extra Long Staple (ELS) cotton, using advanced breeding and biotechnology tools.

A Special Project on Cotton titled 'Targeting technologies to agro-ecological zones-large scale demonstration of best practices to enhance cotton productivity' has been implemented by ICAR- Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur in 8 major cotton growing states under National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) during 2023-24, 2024-25 and is ongoing in 2025-26 to enhance productivity of cotton and production of ELS cotton. The total outlay of the Special Project is Rs. 6,032.35 lakhs.

(b) & (c): The 'Mission for Cotton Productivity' aims to equip farmers with cutting-edge scientific and technological support, enabling higher productivity, superior fibre quality, and improved resilience against climatic and pest-related challenges. Aligned with the Government's integrated 5F vision, Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, the Mission is expected to boost cotton farmers' incomes, ensure a steady supply of high-quality cotton, and revitalize India's traditional textile sector, thereby enhancing its global competitiveness.

(d) & (e): Gujarat is a key player in India's cotton economy, contributing about 28% of the country's total cotton output. With 24–26 lakh hectares under cultivation, the state supports nearly 12 lakh cotton farmers and is renowned globally for its premium "Shankar-6" long-staple cotton, which plays a vital role in India's cotton exports.

To further boost cotton productivity, a special project under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has been implemented since 2023–24 in eight major cotton-growing states, including Gujarat. The initiative promotes advanced agricultural practices to increase yield. In Gujarat, the project covered 466.66 hectares across six districts in 2023–24, and is targeting 407.76 hectares in 2024–25. Further, the 'Mission for Cotton Productivity', announced in the Union Budget 2025–26, aims to enhance cotton production through research and extension services across all cotton-growing states, including Gujarat.

The Government of India is also actively supporting the broader textile sector through various schemes and initiatives. To promote technical textiles, the National Technical Textile Mission (NTTM) was launched for the period 2020–21 to 2025–26 with an outlay of ₹1,480 crore, benefiting states like Gujarat. Further, programmes such as Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA Parks), the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme, and Samarth (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector) are helping entrepreneurs set up textile units by supporting infrastructure development, export promotion, skill development, and R&D. These benefits are uniformly accessible to all states, including Gujarat.
