

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3555
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8TH AUGUST, 2017

BT. COTTON AFFECTED BY PINK BOLLWORMS

3555. SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN:

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

- (a) whether the genetically modified Bt. Cotton has become non-resistant to pink bollworms in Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether farmers are seeking compensation from the Government for their losses; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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

(a): As per report from the Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur there is sporadic incidence of pink bollworm damage in parts of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. No incidence is reported from Northern States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan as well as Southern State of Tamilnadu. The Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur is providing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to the farmers to protect the crop from pests.

(b) & (c): Government of Maharashtra directed the seed companies to pay the compensation of Rs.36.83 lakh to the farmers. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has notified the gene purity of the transgenes Cry1Ac and Cry 2Ab and minimum level of Bt. Toxin for Separate Pack (SP) and Refugia in Bag (RIB) in cotton seed lots for labeling of Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt.) genes in cotton seed. Further, the Department has also recommended commercial cultivation of Bt. Cotton hybrids for Kharif 2017 with stringent criteria.
