

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2452
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND JANUARY, 2018

ILLEGAL SALE OF GM COTTON SEEDS

2452. SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:

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

- (a) whether the farmers in Maharashtra have reported the illegal sale of seeds and cultivation of genetically modified cotton variant not yet approved for use in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to contain the use of unapproved GM cotton 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): No, Madam. However, Media has reported on illegal sale of Herbicide Tolerant (HT) containing BT cotton seeds. State Department of Agriculture, Maharashtra has drawn Seeds & Vegetative samples and submitted to accredited laboratories including laboratory of Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur, which reported positive occurrence of HT genes in the samples.

(c): State Department of Agriculture Maharashtra has initiated punitive action and lodged 3 FIR against the culprits.
