

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1023**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

**COTTON PRODUCTION**

1023. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to open a branch office of Cotton Corporation of India keeping in view of the fact that Bhawanipatna in Kalahandi district is an important area for cotton production in the State of Odisha and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government is also considering to establish ginning and pressing mills in cotton producing districts of Odisha through the Government assistance or on cooperative basis, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to maintain quality control of cotton production, including steps taken to curb the illegal cultivation of Herbicide Tolerant (HT) BT cotton and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government plans on introducing a more sustainable agricultural approach for the production of cotton keeping in view that cotton is a water-intensive crop and involves extensive use of fertilizers and pesticides?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a): Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) Limited procures cotton through its Branch office at Rayagada along with 14 procurement centres in 9 districts of Odisha. Since Bhawanipatna does not have basic infrastructural facilities such as market yard and Ginning & Pressing factories, thus cotton farmers sell their produce in nearby Regulated Market Yards (RMC) viz., Karlapada & Kesinga.

(b): As reported by State Government of Odisha, 38 number of Ginning & Pressing mills are in operation in the state which caters the ginning & pressing operations. State Government is incentivizing to establish new units through Mukyamantri Krishi Udyog Yojna (MKUY) to the interested individuals/ cooperatives by providing subsidy to the tune of 40% to 50% limited to Rs. 50 lakhs per Unit.

(c): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology (CIRCOT) is conducting regular trainings and awareness programmes of stakeholders to maintain and improve the cotton quality. States have been requested to conduct inspection of cotton seed production fields, ginning plants and conduct raids of the suspicious seed storage godowns to control and curb the illegal cultivation, processing, packaging, storage and sale of the unapproved Herbicide Tolerant (HT) Bt. cotton seeds.

(d): ICAR- Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur is undertaking intensive research and development activities for sustainable development of cotton in the country by promoting Good Agricultural Practices. The Good Agricultural Practices are passed by the institute with the States for effective fertilizer/pesticides usage and water use efficiency in cotton cultivation.

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