

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1355  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2022

STEPS TO CONTROL COTTON PRICE

1355. SHRI VELUSAMY P.:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री  
be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the average modal or most quoted price of kapas (raw un-gined cotton) has recently doubled as compared to last year price for long staple cotton varieties;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to control the price of the cotton;
- (c) whether the Government will increase the MSP and impose ban on exports due to lower production since the domestic consumption is higher;
- (d) whether the Government is having any proposal to ban Bt cotton with reference to fertility of the soil; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

उत्तर  
ANSWER  
वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती दर्शना जरदोश)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES  
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

**(a):** During last cotton season 2021-22, opening prices of long staple variety kapas were in the range of Rs.7,000 to 7,600 per quintal. The opening prices in current cotton season 2022-23, of this cotton variety kapas is in the range of Rs. 8,000 to 8,700 per quintal.

**(b):** Cotton prices are dependent on market forces of demand & supply and international prices. Ministry of Textiles is constantly engaged with stakeholders across the entire cotton value chain in respect of the prices of cotton to harmonize their interest.

**(c):** For cotton season 2022-23 (1.10.2022 to 30.9.2023), Government of India has increased MSP of FAQ grade cotton by about 6% than last year i.e from Rs. 5,726 and 6,025 to Rs. 6,080 and 6,380 per quintal for Medium/Long staple cotton respectively. The estimated cotton production in the country is 341.91 lakh bales whereas consumption is 311 lakh bales. Hence, there is no need to ban the cotton export.

**(d) & (e):** There is no proposal to ban Bt cotton as even after 18 years of Bt cotton introduction in India, no long term effect has been noticed on soil ecology, soil micro- flora, fauna and their diversity.

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