

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5488  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2023

REDUCTION OF COTTON IMPORTS

5488. SHRI KOMATI REDDY VENKAT REDDY:  
SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY:  
SHRI KANUMURU RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU:

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps for exports of cotton and its related items and reducing cotton imports, if so, the details thereof including the steps being taken in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the production of cotton, increase of pesticide rate and labour rate of cotton and its related items and mixing of cotton and jute in some products which is putting farmers in losses, if so, the details thereof, State-wise since 2014 onwards to till date along with the corrective steps being taken till now; and
- (c) the details of suggestions/demands received/ action taken by the Government from cotton producers and its companies till now to help the cotton industry at various stages?

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

(a): India is a net cotton exporter country wherein production is more than consumption. Looking at the wider interest of the entire cotton value chain including cotton farmers, Government of India has kept export of cotton under Open General License (OGL) whereas there is an import duty of 11% (including 5% Custom Duty, 5% AIDC and 1% Cess) on import of cotton in India since 1<sup>st</sup>February 2021.

Besides this, to boost export of textile products, Government extended continuation of Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) on exports of Apparel/Garments and Made-ups. Further, rebate under Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme is also available @3.1% of Freight On Board (FOB) value. Government also provides financial support to various Export Promotion Councils and Trade Bodies engaged in promotion of textiles and garments exports for organizing and participating in trade fairs, exhibitions, buyer-seller meets etc.

Free Trade Agreements have been signed with UAE and Australia to access export market, which came into force from 01.05.2022 and 29.12.2022 respectively.

(b): State-wise production of cotton in India since 2014-15 is as under:

State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (P)
Punjab	13.00	6.25	9.00	11.76	8.50	9.50	10.23	6.46	4.54
Haryana	23.00	14.50	20.50	21.48	23.00	26.50	18.23	13.16	17.20
Rajasthan	17.00	15.00	16.50	23.26	27.50	29.00	32.07	24.81	25.51
<b>North total</b>	<b>53.00</b>	<b>35.75</b>	<b>46.00</b>	<b>56.50</b>	<b>59.00</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>60.53</b>	<b>44.43</b>	<b>47.25</b>
Gujarat	112.00	90.00	95.00	103.84	90.00	89.00	72.18	75.09	87.12
Maharashtra	80.00	76.00	88.50	83.35	76.00	87.00	101.05	82.49	81.85
Madhya Pradesh	19.00	18.00	20.50	22.14	23.00	20.00	13.38	14.20	15.19
<b>Central total</b>	<b>211.00</b>	<b>184.00</b>	<b>204.00</b>	<b>209.33</b>	<b>189.00</b>	<b>196.00</b>	<b>186.61</b>	<b>171.78</b>	<b>184.16</b>
Telangana	50.50	58.00	48.00	54.44	42.00	54.00	57.97	48.78	54.41
Andhra Pradesh	26.50	23.75	19.00	21.26	15.00	18.00	16.00	17.08	18.85
Karnataka	34.00	19.50	18.00	17.32	16.00	20.00	23.20	19.55	21.48
Tamil Nadu	6.00	6.00	5.00	5.50	6.00	6.00	2.43	3.02	3.56
<b>South Total</b>	<b>117.00</b>	<b>107.25</b>	<b>90.00</b>	<b>98.52</b>	<b>79.00</b>	<b>98.00</b>	<b>99.60</b>	<b>88.43</b>	<b>98.30</b>
Orissa	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.65	4.00	4.00	5.51	6.26	7.23
Others	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.23	0.27	0.29
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>386.00</b>	<b>332.00</b>	<b>345.00</b>	<b>370.00</b>	<b>333.00</b>	<b>365.00</b>	<b>352.48</b>	<b>311.17</b>	<b>337.23</b>
<b>Source: COCPC meeting dated 24.03.23</b>									
<b>P-Provisional</b>									

Further, Labour Rate of Cotton (Rs./Hr)

Sl. No.	State	Labour Rates (Rs/ hour)				
		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	Andhra Pradesh	53.75	58.63	70.86	59.71	65.06
2	Assam	37.59	37.82	39.60	39.92	41.48
3	Bihar	30.55	33.04	33.73	34.66	39.36
4	Chhattisgarh	26.10	30.31	34.00	35.28	34.44
5	Gujarat	29.17	29.35	32.08	31.43	35.16
6	Haryana	49.75	51.45	57.97	59.21	61.50
7	Himachal Pradesh	51.07	55.44	55.31	63.14	66.06
8	Jharkhand	32.11	32.06	32.01	37.85	39.74
9	Karnataka	31.40	32.13	34.47	42.32	49.35
10	Kerala	100.29	104.95	108.60	117.47	117.88
11	Madhya Pradesh	30.19	33.61	36.88	35.48	36.64
12	Maharashtra	29.10	29.81	31.23	35.61	39.14
13	Odisha	26.31	31.59	33.39	32.49	36.01
14	Punjab	48.29	49.58	51.44	57.38	54.47
15	Rajasthan	45.26	50.91	48.81	50.95	56.14
16	Tamil Nadu	49.10	53.48	57.14	60.40	62.85
17	Telangana	-	-	-	93.55	98.36
18	Uttar Pradesh	29.02	34.31	36.13	40.28	42.35
19	Uttarakhand	40.15	41.58	42.52	40.28	-
20	West Bengal	40.99	43.33	44.82	44.84	48.52

(c): Action taken by Government:

- Constitution of a Textile Advisory Group (TAG) as an informal body comprising representative from Textile Industry/ Industry Associations and Other experts to deliberate and recommend on the issues pertaining to the entire cotton value chain including enhancing yield of cotton, crop protection measures, branding of cotton, farm mechanisation & development of cotton economy by promoting advanced technologies through holistic planning from farm to fashion.
- The issue of use of colored fertilizer bags to avoid contamination in cotton is raised in one of the TAG meeting has been taken up with Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers. Department of Fertilizers has issued OM dated 24th August 2022 on 'One Nation One Fertilizer' which helps reduce of white contaminants in the cotton.
- For creating awareness and extension services on Best Farm Practices to Improve Yield, Quality and Sustainability including ginning and processing practices, a pilot project starting from March 2023 till March 2024 has been taken up by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) in association with ICAR-CICR and funded Rs. 2.54 crore.
- Ministry of Agriculture through ICAR-CICR, Nagpur has developed a Master plan titled 'targeting technologies to agro-ecological zones-large scale demonstrations of best practices to enhance cotton productivity' and sanctioned Rs. 41.87 crore for implementation of this project under national food Security Mission (NFSM). The project aim is targeting technologies such as High Density Planting System (HDPS), closer spacing and production technology for ELS cotton has been sanctioned by Department of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare (DoA&FW).
- Government of India issued Quality Control Order (QCO) on 28.02.2023 for mandatory certification of cotton bales to augment supply of good quality cotton.

\*\*\*\*\*