

The area of Bt. Cotton has increased from 0.70 lakh acres in Kharif, 2002 to 2.3 lakh acres in Kharif, 2003 and further increased to 12.00 lakh acres in the Kharif, 2004.

Spraying of coca cola on crops as pesticides

†844. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURU MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers in certain districts in Andhra Pradesh are spraying coca cola cold drink as a pesticide for the protection of their crops;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the crops are being protected by the above mentioned spraying method?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that a few farmers in Asifabad Division of Adilabad District in the State have tried to control pests on cotton crop during Kharif, 2004 by spraying coca cola. However, no scientific study has been conducted to confirm the efficacy of coca cola in pest control.

Sreamlining NAIS

845. SHRI NANDIYELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of provisions of the Crop Insurance Scheme in India and various situations and conditions under which farmers could become beneficiaries of this scheme;

(b) whether farmers in various States are opposing this scheme in view of its failure to protect their interests;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken, so far, and measures proposed to be implemented to streamline the scheme;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.