

- (b) if so, the average price rise in each year, from 2008 to 2012;
- (c) whether the demand for seeds has also decreased due to the hike in prices;
- (d) if so, the annual decrease in their demand; and
- (e) the total number of companies involved in the business of seed production in the country in year 2011?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. In the country more than 90% cotton area is under Bt. cotton and there has not been any continuous increase in the prices of Bt. cotton seeds as evident from the following table giving year wise prices of Bt. cotton seeds (BG-I and BG-II) in different States during the last 5 years:-

Year	BG-I		BG-II	
	MH, GUJ, MP, AP, KA, TN (Region-I)*	PUN, HAR, RAJ. (Region-II)**	MH, GUJ, MP, KA, TN (Region-I)*	PUN, HAR, RAJ. (Region-II)**
2008-09	650	750	750	925
2009-10	650	750	750	925
2010-11	650	750	750	925
2011-12	830	825	930	1000
2012-13	830	825	930	1000

* Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Tamil Nadu.

** Punjab, Haryana & Rajasthan.

Sources: Agriculture Department, Haryana; Agriculture Department, Gujarat & Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company (MAHYCO).

(c) & (d) No, Sir. Question does not arise. In fact, the area under Bt. cotton cultivation increased from 93.36 lakh ha. in 2010-11 to 111.39 lakh ha. (estimated) in 2011-12 necessitating greater demand for Bt. cotton seeds.

(e) There are about 46 seed companies involved in the business of seed production and sale of Bt. cotton seed in 2011.

Cultivation of Bt. cotton

3106. SHRI SANJAY RAUT :
SHRI ANIL DESAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bt. Cotton needs adequate and regular water supply;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the same land cannot be used for growing indigenous cotton due to the impact of Bt. Cotton; and

(c) if so, the steps Government is taking to discourage farmers from cultivating Bt. Cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) : (a) The consumptive use of water for cotton ranges from 650-1,100 mm for different places/different varieties, depending on the duration, soil and climatic conditions e.g. for North India it is 700-750 mm, Gujarat 900-1,100 mm, Madhya Pradesh 660-685 mm, Karnataka 800-900 mm and Tamil Nadu 650-750 mm. Cotton is irrigated 2-13 times depending upon the soil, season, climate and crop duration etc. Bt. cotton needs about one-third of seasonal water use (of 70-120 cm) during initial growth till flowering and the rest during flower and boll development. In terms of the percentage of the total seasonal water use, the crop water requirement is 20% till 1st flower, 40% during 1st flower to peak flower, 30% during peak flower to bursting of bolls and the balance 10% till maturity.

(b) No, Sir. It is not factually correct that the same land cannot be used for growing indigenous cotton.

(c) Question does not arise.

Impact of ban on export of cotton

3107. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI :

SHRI N.K. SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is proposing to ban the export of cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the impact of this ban on farmers in the country; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to compensate the farmers for their losses due to the ban on exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) : (a) The export of cotton has been made free vide DGFT Notification No. 106 (RE-2010)/2009-14 dated 12th March, 2012.

(b) to (d) The decision to allow export of cotton is taken/reviewed from time to time by the Government keeping in view the production, stock position, domestic