

(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

demand and prices, and interest of all stakeholders including farmers. To ensure that farmers get remunerative prices, Government announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) every year keeping in view the cost of production. In case prices fall below MSP, designated Government agencies carryout procurements at MSP. There have been very few cases of MSP operations by Government agencies as prices of cotton have been generally above MSP.

Condition of farmers in Bihar

3108. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that condition of farmers in Bihar is very miserable;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by Government for improvement of their financial condition;

(c) whether it is a fact that heavy floods and draught are major reasons for poor financial condition of farmers in Bihar;

(d) if so, whether Government has any plan to come out from such natural calamities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) : (a) to (e) According to the Situation Assessment Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in the rural areas in 2002-03, the average monthly income of a farmer household in Bihar was Rs. 1810 as against the all India average of Rs.2115. Further, as per the third advance estimates, yields of principal crops in Bihar and at all India level during the year 2011-12 are as under:-

(Kg./Hectare)		
Crops	Bihar	All India
Rice	2160	2346
Wheat	2206	3026
Coarse Cereals	2450	1659
Pulses	857	726
Food Grains	2085	1993