

(c) The benefits of the Scheme will be available to all the States including Jharkhand through access to quality disease free semen doses produced at semen stations being supported under NDP-I.

Indigenous production of Bt. cotton seeds

1566. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether genetically modified Bt. Cotton seeds are produced indigenously or have to be imported for each cotton season;

(b) whether the cost of producing Bt. Cotton seeds in the country is cheaper than that of the imported seeds; and

(c) if not, whether introduction of Bt. Cotton seeds adversely affects the economic status of the small and marginal cotton farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Bt. Cotton hybrid seeds are produced indigenously by various private seed producing companies for each cotton season.

(b) In view of (a), Question does not arise.

(c) Introduction of Bt. Cotton hybrid has resulted in higher yield from 190 kg lint per ha in 2000-01 to 491 kg lint per ha in 2011-12, which has increased the earning and thereby has improved the socio economic status of the farmers including small & marginal farmers in the major cotton growing States.

Shortage of pulses

1567. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of various pulses during the kharif season this year, State-wise;

(b) the details of the area in which pulses have been sown during the current rabi season, State-wise;

(c) whether area of pulses sown have shrunk during the current rabi season due to widespread drought in pulses growing States like UP, MP, Rajasthan and Bihar;