

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1306**  
ANSWERED ON-30/07/2021

**SETTING UP CENTRAL COTTON RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN  
KALAHANDI DISTRICT**

1306. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kalahandi district in Odisha is one of the largest cotton-producing districts in Odisha and the other cotton-growing districts of Odisha are Bolangir, Rayagada and Nuapada, Ganjam, Sonepur, Gajapati, Boudh, Bargarh, Phulbani, and Koraput; and
- (b) if so, whether the Central Government would consider setting up a Central Cotton Research Institute in Kalahandi district?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)**

- (a) Yes, the area under cotton and production of cotton in Kalahandi district is the maximum among all the cotton growing districts of Odisha like Bolangir, Rayagada, Nuapada, Ganjam, Sonepur, Gajapati, Boudh, Bargarh, Phulbani and Koraput. Out of the total 1.69 lakh ha area under cotton, 0.60 lakh ha is in Kalahandi district (2019-20), which is about 35% of the total cotton area of Odisha state with a production of 227.24 thousand bales.
- (b) One centre of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) -All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton (AICRP on Cotton) under the ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur has already been operating at the Regional Research and Technology Transfer Station of Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology at Bhawanipatna, Distt. Kalahandi since 01.01.2000. This centre caters to the needs of the cotton farmers by developing improved suitable varieties/hybrids and appropriate cotton production and protection technologies for that areas in the state of Odisha.

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