

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1459
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29/07/2022

PINK BOLLWORM ATTACK

1459. SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the pink bollworm attack on crops in Punjab, especially on Bt. cotton crops in Mansa district of Punjab;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to ensure that losses suffered due to pink bollworm attack are minimized; and
- (c) whether Government plans to provide compensation to farmers affected by such attacks?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC) Jalandhar (Punjab) conducts regular survey on Pink Bollworm in cotton every year. Pink Bollworm intensity was reported at low to moderate levels in Barnala, Bathinda, Faridkot and Mansa districts of Punjab in the months of July, August, September and October 2021 as per Survey Report 2021. CIPMC Jalandhar conducted extensive surveys on the cotton crop in July 2022 and surveyed 900 ha of area in Bhatinda, Mansa, Sangrur, Mukatsar, Faridkot & Fazilka districts of Punjab. During the survey, Pink Bollworm incidence has been reported at low to moderate intensity in Bhatinda.

Farmers Field School (FFS) on cotton crop, Kisan Gosthi and IPM Exhibition are being conducted to train farmers in Punjab about latest integrated pest management (IPM) technologies to enable them to manage pest and disease situations in their crops. The Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (DPPQ&S) has issued advisories dated 08.07.21 and 15.07.22 to Director of Agriculture, Punjab on Pink Bollworm and Whitefly on Cotton.

Department of Agriculture, Punjab and Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana has taken various steps such as providing quality seeds of BT cotton for sowing purpose; spreading awareness for management of pink bollworm; carrying out off-season management activities relating to pink bollworm; adoption of new technologies for management of Pink Bollworm; recommending non-chemical intervention; demonstration on mating disruption technology and issue of advisories to various stakeholders.
