

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-955
ANSWERED ON- 09/02/2024

PRICE OF COTTON

955. SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the price of 20 kg cotton in the country in 2019;
- (b) the price of 20 kg of cotton in January, 2023 and January, 2024 in the country; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure fair price to the farmers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH)

(a) & (b): The Prices of 20kg of seed cotton based on Minimum Support Price (MSP) are as follows:

Value in Rs.

Variety	January 2019	January 2023	January 2024
Medium Staple (24.5-25.5mm)	1,030 (@5,150/quintal)	1,216 (@6,080/quintal)	1,324 (@6,620/quintal)
Long Staple (29.5-30.5mm)	1,090 (@5,450/quintal)	1,276 (@6,380/quintal)	1,404 (@7,020/quintal)

(Source: Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) Reports)

(c): Following initiatives have been taken by the Government of India to ensure fair price to the cotton farmers:

- i) Every year before commencement of the Cotton Season (Oct. to Sept.), MSP is declared by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, to ensure fair remuneration to farmers.
- ii) To sustain the interests of cotton farmers, Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has been appointed as a Central Nodal agency for undertaking MSP operations when prices of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) grade seed cotton (kapas) fall below the MSP rates.
- iii) CCI has opened 478 procurement centres across the 145 cotton-growing districts under its 17 branches located in all 12 cotton growing States. CCI field officials remain present in all these centres to meet any eventuality of buying cotton without any quantitative restrictions when the seed cotton prices touches MSP rates. CCI makes direct interaction and outreach with the cotton farmers through Cott-Ally mobile app of CCI in nine regional languages.
- iv) From cotton season 2023-24 onwards, CCI has implemented on the spot aadhar based farmer registration and payment system through PFMS Portal for bringing transparency, efficiency and enabling genuine cotton farmers to get 100% payment directly in their aadhar linked bank accounts. Also, there is electronic generation of bills to ensure prompt payments to cotton farmers.
