

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2633
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003
PROCUREMENT OF COTTON BY CCI
BIKRAM KESHARI DEO

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the problems of the cotton growers in Orissa and particularly of Kalahandi and Nuapara districts;
- (b) whether the Government are aware of the huge stock of cotton in these districts; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for procurement of cotton from these districts by Cotton Corporation of India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL))

- (a) The Government is aware of the general problems of the cotton growers in the country including those in Orissa. To protect the interests of the cotton growers, Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) and whenever market price of kapas (seed cotton) touches the MSP, the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd (CCI) undertakes support price operations. During the current cotton season 2002-03 (October-September), kapas prices, in Orissa and other parts of the country, are ruling above the MSP.
- (b) As per the reports received, there is no unsold stock of kapas in Kalahandi and Nuapara districts of Orissa.
- (c) The CCI has purchased kapas equivalent to lint cotton of 5,595 bales (of 170 kg. each) during the current cotton season 2002-03 in Orissa. Apart from the CCI, private ginners / traders have also purchased kapas from the cotton growers in Orissa.