

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2965
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
BT COTTON IN PUNJAB
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a trial for BT Cotton has been conducted in Punjab;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has consented for sowing of the BT cotton in Punjab;
- (d) if so, the details of the cultivable land under BT cotton in the State, district-wise;
- (e) whether the Union Government is providing any financial and technological assistance to cotton growers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a) & (b): Contained field trials on Bt. cotton hybrids expressing Cry1Ac gene have been conducted in Abohar, Muktsar, Mansa and Talwandi.
- (c): The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee has not, as yet, released any Bt. cotton hybrid for cultivation in Punjab.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e) & (f): The Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented under Mini Mission-II of the Technology Mission of Cotton (TMC) to increase production & productivity of cotton. The funding pattern under the scheme is mostly on 75:25 sharing basis between the Government of India and the implementing states.