

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3744
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
PRODUCTION/ EXPORT OF COTTON
Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production of cotton during the last three years;
- (b) whether there has been demand from abroad including Pakistan and China for import of cotton;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantity required by them; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a): The Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) has estimated the production of cotton from 2003-04 to 2005-06 as shown in the table below :

Year Quantity in lakh
 bales of 170 kgs each

2003-04	179.00
2004-05	243.00
2005-06	242.50

(b): Yes, Sir. There have been adequate inquiries for Indian cotton from various countries including China and Pakistan.

(c): Due to decline in cotton production in China (Main Land) during the current cotton season 2005-06, as also due to increasing cotton consumption because of rising textile exports and domestic textile consumption, the gap between production and consumption in China is expected to increase to 3.2 million tonnes. Similarly, the cotton production in Pakistan has declined while the consumption in Pakistan is expected to increase. The details of projected imports by China and Pakistan, as per International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), during the current cotton season are as under :

Quantity in Million metric tonnes

Country Estimated imports
 during 2005-06

China	3.20
Pakistan	0.39

Source : ICAC release dated 01.12.2005

In view of above, both China and Pakistan are expected to meet their demand through imports from various countries including India.

(d): During the current cotton season 2005-06, the exports of cotton from the country are expected to be double than during last year. As per trade sources, it is understood that nearly 15.00 lakh bales have already been contracted for exports from the country so far.