

ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR COTTON RESEARCH

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Reply submitted to RTI queries by Shri. N. Venkateswara Rao

Date of Received : 15.06.2020

Date of Disposed : 14.07.2020

With reference to the RTI application of Shri. N. Venkateswara Rao, the reply submitted is given below:

Query1. What is the ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton?

Reply: The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched the All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project (AICCP) in the year 1967 (Renamed to All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton - AICRP on Cotton) with its Headquarters at Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) to give new thrust and direction in terms of multi-disciplinary and multi-centre approaches with the active involvement of State Agricultural Universities across cotton growing states.

The AICRP on cotton operates with the following mandate:

- To develop cultivars and hybrids best suited for different agro-climatic zones of India.
- To develop viable and economical area-based agro-techniques for realizing maximum yields / profits from improved cultivars for both irrigated and rainfed conditions including management of abiotic stresses.
- To develop economic and effective pest and disease management practices under different agro-biological conditions.

Query2. What is the role of ICAR and/or ICAR-AICRP on the sale of varieties/hybrids of any crop seed with respect to clause 8A of the Seeds Control Order, 1983 ?

Reply: ICAR through its constituent Institutions identify high yielding varieties and hybrids of crop plants after testing for value for cultivation and usage under AICRP system. The identified varieties/hybrids are notified for the public by the Central Sub-Committee on Crop Standards

Notification & Release of Varieties for Agricultural and Horticultural Crops. The seeds of varieties thus notified will be produced by the public and private Institutions and offer for sale to farmers through direct or seed dealers.

Query3. What is the role of ICAR and/or ICAR-AICRP on the sale of Bt cotton varieties/hybrids of an approved event MON15985 (stacked with Cry1Ac & Cry2Ab genes) with respect to clause 8A of the Seeds Control Order, 1983?

Reply: ICAR has no role in the sale of varieties/ hybrids of genetically modified cotton crop

Query4. To whom it is mandatory to get identified of his variety/hybrid of any crop seed (Non-GM) from the Variety Identification Committee (VIC) under the Seeds Control Order, 1983?

Reply: The varieties/hybrids tested under AICRP system needs to be identified and subsequently notified for commercial cultivation by farmers using certified class of seeds. The developer of the variety/ hybrid (an individual or organization) is responsible to submit proposal for identification and subsequently for notification and release of variety / hybrids.

Query5. To whom it is mandatory to get identified of his Genetically Modified Cotton Variety/Hybrid seed from the Variety Identification Committee (VIC) for Bt-Cotton under the Seeds Control Order, 1983?

Reply: Genetically modified cotton varieties/hybrids tested under AICRP system needs to be identified and subsequently notified for commercial cultivation by farmers using certified class of seeds. The developer of the variety/ hybrid (an individual or organization) is responsible to submit proposal for identification and subsequently for notification and release of variety / hybrids

Query6. To whom it is mandatory to get released of his variety/ hybrid seed of any crop (whether GM or Non-GM) under the Seeds Control Order, 1983?

Reply: The public Institute/private institution, which breed variety/hybrid of any crop with an intension to market the seeds of that variety/hybrid with certification tag offered by state seed certification agency, get released of his variety/hybrid under SCO.

Query7. To whom it is mandatory to get notified of his variety/ hybrid of any crop seed (whether GM or Non-GM) under the Seeds Control Order, 1983?

Reply: It is not related to ICAR-AICRP on cotton, it is related to DAC &FW – seeds division

This is issued with the approval of the Director, ICAR-CICR, Nagpur.