File No.Agcs-12027(31)/14/2017-SEED SEC-AGRHOD

Government of Andhra Pradesh Department of Agriculture

From To

Dr.M .Hari Jawahar Lal , IAS All the District Collectors &

Special Commissioner of Agriculture Magistrates Andhra Pradesh, Guntur. in the state

Lr.No.Agcs-12027(31)/14/2017 dated: -02-2018

Sir,

Sub: Seed Regulation Cell – GOI guidelines on unapproved cultivation of HT Cotton-

Communication to Districts- Reg

Ref: D.O.No.13-134/2017-SD.IV dated: 29/01/2018 from Ministry of Agriculture

& Farmers Welfare, Dept.of Agriculture & Co-op, New Delhi.

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It is to inform that vide reference cited the GOI stated that the cultivation of Herbicide Tolerant Cotton is not approved by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) in India. Therefore, the sale, commercial cultivation and seed production of HT Cotton seed is punishable offence under Seeds Act,1966, Seeds Rules, 1968 and Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 vis-à-vis under Environmental Protection Act, 1986 and Environmental Protection Rules, 1989.

Further and also to inform that the GOI requested the State Government to conduct rigorous inspections of Cotton Seed production fields, Ginning Mills and suspicious Seed godowns to control and curb the illegal cultivation, sale and processing, packaging and storage of the unapproved HT Cotton seed for next sowing and initiate *Criminal proceedings as per provisions of Indian Penal Code*.

Deliberate release of unapproved HT cotton by anybody are punishable under Rule 15 of Environment protection rules 1989 under EP Act 1986, seed Act 1966, Seed(Control) Order 1983 and initiate action as per provisions of Indian Penal Code.

In view of the above, it is requested to give wide publicity to control and curb the illegal cultivation, sale and processing, packaging and storage of the unapproved HT Cotton seed for next sowing.

Encl: Reference

Yours faithfully, Dr.M.Hari Jawahar Lal, Special Commissioner of Agriculture Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

To

Copy to Joint Collectors & Additional District Magistrates in the state.

Copy to Revenue Divisional Officers in the state through concerned District Collectors.

Copy to Seed Men Association, with request to intimate to all seed companies in the

Signature^tNot Verified

Digitally signed by MI DE HARI JAWAHARLAL

Date: 2018.0<mark>2.23</mark> 4:32:14 IST

Reason: Approved