

**Foodgrain Production in Gujarat**

182. SHRI N.J. RATHVA :- Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains produced in Gujarat during 1991-92 and expected during 1992-93;

(b) whether the State Government has prepared a comprehensive action plan for increasing the production of foodgrains and sought its approval from the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the plan is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) The final estimates of foodgrains production for 1991-93 have not yet become due from the State of Gujarat. However, according to the present assessment, the production of total Goodgrains in Gujarat this year, i.e. 1992-93, is likely to be about 52 lakh tonnes against the last year's production of 34 lakh tonnes.

(b) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has not received any comprehensive action plan from the State of Gujarat for increasing the production foodgrains.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Pollution by Paper Industry**

\*183. SHRI LAL BABU RAI :  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the paper industry is causing depletion of forests resources and pollution on large scale ;

(b) if so, the measures taken to minimise depletion of forests resources and to control pollution by this industry ;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage production of handmade paper which causes much less pollution and has vast employment potential ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) No, Sir. Depletion of forest resources is not being caused by the forests based industries on a large scale; however, pulp and paper industries are an identified category of highly polluting industries.

(b) Various measures taken to minimise depletion of forest resources and to control pollution by pulp and paper industries are :-

(i) To relieve pressure on the country's forests for raw materials, the Government are encouraging manufacture of paper from non-traditional materials including agricultural wastes.

(ii) Encouraging farm forestry for supply of raw material to paper and other industry.

(iii) Import of wood chips and pulp has been liberalised.

(iv) Time bound action plans have been