

Crop Insurance Scheme

*40. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to have some re-thinking about the speedy introduction of Crop Insurance Schemes to alleviate the sufferings of the farmers caused due to natural calamities like floods, excessive rains, droughts etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake any fresh study of the problem in the light of the experiences gained in recent years in the calamities-hit areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia the other measures proposed to be taken to extend relief to farmers in the event of natural calamities mentioned above?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) and (b) A comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme is already in operation in the country since 1985. It protects farmers against losses suffered due to natural calamities like floods, droughts etc.

(c) and (d) On the basis of experience gained over the recent year in the implementation of the scheme in different areas modifications are being considered to provide greater protection to farmers against natural calamities.

Imbalance Use of Fertilizers

168. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report of the Fertilizer Association of India about the rising imbalance in the use of different fertilizers with long term adverse consequences for the soil health during 1994-95;

(b) the consumption pattern during 1994-95, State-wise;

(c) whether any steps have already been taken to reduce the imbalance; and

(d) the additional steps, if any which are under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes. Sir. Government is aware of the report.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) and (d) The Government have taken following measures to narrow down the imbalance:

(i) The scheme of Concession on the sale of Phosphatic and potassic Fertilisers initiated after decontrol of these fertilizers during 1992-93 is continued since then.

(ii) A scheme on Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilisers has been taken up during the 8th Plan under which integrated use of nutrients through the use of organic manure, bio-fertilizer and micro-nutrients is promoted along with the use of chemical nutrients.

(iii) National Project on Development of Fertilizer Use in Low Consumption and Rainfed Areas has been taken up during 1994-95, under which green manure as well as integrated nutrient system is promoted.

(iv) Under the National Project on Development and Use of Bio-fertilizers, Production, distribution and use of bio-fertilizers is promoted.

(v) States are advised to organise training programmes for educating farmers about balanced use of fertilisers.

(vi) Government have proposed a Technology Mission on Biofertilizers. Implementation of the Technology Mission would also help narrow-down the imbalance in use of fertilisers.

STATEMENT

State-wise consumption of fertilizers

(Tonnes)

S.No.	State	1993-94				1994-95			
		N	P	K	Total	N	P	K	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1085746	369503	88089	1543338	1109154	382093	109940	1601187
2.	Karnataka	472816	215826	116403	805039	482498	202616	119458	804572
3.	Kerala	77599	33122	66110	176831	83725	42656	75227	201608
4.	Tamil Nadu	413884	161343	205694	780921	481868	193345	278123	953336
5.	Andaman & Nicobar	214	100	32	346	338	119	197	654