

under control. State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are enforcing the provisions of the Essential Commodities and similar legislations to curb the activities of hoarders and black-marketeers and other anti-social elements.

Agricultural Production in Hilly Areas

1891. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether per acre agricultural production in hilly areas in the country has increased as a result of various researches undertaken during the last two decades in the field of agriculture ;

(b) if so, to what extent ;

(c) whether this increase is satisfactory ; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to consider the question of opening of separate research and extension centres in various hill regions of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has been definite impact of improved agricultural technology on the agricultural production in hill regions. The increase in yield per hectare in hilly areas for major crops during the year 1983-84 over the base year 1960-61 is as under :

Crop	State	% increase during 1983-84 over base year 1960-61
Rice	Jammu & Kashmir	66.3
Wheat	Himachal Pradesh	74.2
Maize	Himachal Pradesh	89.6
	Jammu & Kashmir	10.5
Pulses as a whole	Himachal Pradesh	7.4
	Jammu & Kashmir	61.1

In the North East Hill Region percentage increase in agricultural production taking 1972 as base year is as follows :—

Cereals as a whole	Meghalaya	110.0
	Nagaland	174.0
	Tripura	178.0
	Manipur	136.0
	Arunachal Pradesh	144.0
Potato	Mizoram	208.0
Oilseeds as a whole	Meghalaya	103.0
	Nagaland	108.0

(c) Yes, Sir. However, there is scope for further improvement.

(d) Does not arise.