

(b) After it became operational in February, 1984, the Council has sanctioned 70 projects at a total cost of Rs 362.89 lakhs. An Amount of Rs. 190.78 lakhs has so far been released by the Council for these projects. The projects are designed to field test demonstrate and, in some cases, to provide training in improve technologies relevant to rural areas. These projects are being implemented through State Governments, research institutions, and voluntary agencies.

The Council has also initiated steps to develop a computerised data bank on technologies and a documentation and information centre. A programme of information documentation through publications, documentary films, and video programmes is also being conducted. Several workshops, seminars and discussions for the promotion of new and improved technologies have also been held in different parts of the country.

(c) The Council started providing financial assistance for projects from the middle of 1984-85. The period of the projects vary from six months to 3 years. Although some of the projects have been evaluated, most of them are still under implementation. The real impact on the rural economy can be ascertained only after a reasonable period of time. However, the response to the Council's efforts at dissemination of information has been encouraging.

Imparting of Adult Education Programme Through Television and All India Radio

2034. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme under consideration to utilise television and radio services for imparting Adult Education Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STAE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCSTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In fact programme

on Adult Education which are non-formal in nature are broadcast/telecast over AIR and Doordarshan regularly. AIR broadcasts programmes on items which have relevance to the weaker sections of the society. The programmes also provide support to the Adult Education activities in the concerned States. At present 22 Stations of AIR are regularly broadcasting 2 to 5 programmes each of 20 minutes duration every week. The other Stations are putting out atleast two programmes of 10 minutes duration per week. All programme producing Kendras of Doordarshan, including those set up under the scheme for TV utilisation of INSAT, regularly put out programme for non-formal adult education.

Cotton Support Price

2035. SHRIMATT PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :
SHRI C. SAMBU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the agencies through which cotton is purchased from cotton growers in the country;

(b) the support price of cotton fixed during 1981 to 1985 in each State;

(c) whether Government have fixed any support price for cotton at present;

(d) if so, rate at which cotton is being purchased from cotton growers in the States; and

(e) whether any memorandum representation has been received by Government from Gujarat Cotton Growers Association and such other organisations in the country. If so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a). Except in case of Maharashtra where cotton is purchased under the monopoly procurement scheme by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation,

cotton in other parts of the country is purchased from the growers by public agencies such as the Cotton Corporation of India, State Cooperative Marketing Federations and cooperative societies.

(b) and (c). The minimum support prices fixed for the basic varieties of cotton for the fair average quality during the 1981-82 to 1985-86 seasons are as under :—

Year	Variety	Minimum support price (Rs /gtl.)
1981-82		Not fixed
1982-83	J-34	380
1983-84	F-414/H-777	400
	H-4	527
1984-85	F-414/H777	410
	H-4	535
1985-86	F-414/H-777	425
	H-4	535

The minimum support prices of other varieties of cotton during the different years were fixed keeping in view the normal market differentials and other relevant factors. The minimum support prices are uniform in all the States.

(d) In Maharashtra all cotton is purchased under the monopoly procurement scheme of the state Government at guaranteed prices, indicated in the statement given below. In other States cotton prices are determined by the normal market forces. However, in areas where the market prices tend to fall below the minimum support levels, Cotton Corporation of India undertakes market support purchases at the declared minimum support prices for fair average quality of these varieties.

(e) During the current season the Government have received a number of representations from various organisations including Gujarat State Cooperative Cotton Federation, mainly touching upon the purchases by the Cotton Corporation of India, export of cotton and remunerative prices for cotton. The Cotton Corporation of India has been directed to make extensive purchases wherever necessary at the declared minimum support prices which are in the nature of the minimum remunerative prices. The Government of India have already released an export quota of 10 lakh bales of long/extra long staple cotton, 52,000 bales of Bengal Deshi and 25,000 bales of yellow pickings during the current cotton and season.

Statement

Guaranteed Price for the Fair Average Quality of raw cotton fixed in Maharashtra State for 1985-86 Season

S. No.	Variety	Price (Rs. per qtl.)
1	2	3
1.	V. Laxmi (RHR-253/MCH-1)	542
2.	H-4 (Nimkar-391)	592
3.	MCU-5 (Godawari/NDH-1/DCH-32 G-67 (H-4 Foundation seed) H-6	569
4.	Laxmi 'A' (V. Laxmi Foundation (seed) (Combodia/Nimkar)	561
5.	1007 DHY/MCH-11 (Rajhans/AHH-468 (C. P.)	555

1	2	3
6.	1007/DHY/MCH-11 (Rajhans/AHH-468) (Bearar)	549
7.	1007/DHY/MCH-11 (Rajhans/AHH-468) (K/M)	543
8.	L-147/SRT-1 (C. P.)	525
9.	L-147/SRT-1 (Berar)	519
10.	L-147/SRT-1 (K/M)	514
11.	Digvijay	525
12.	AK 235 and 277/AKH-4 (H-2)	510
13.	Virnar/Jyoti	505
14.	Y-1 (K)	505
15.	Y-1 (M)	499
16.	197/3	493
17.	Gaorani 22/46 (Gaorani-6)	482
18.	Jayadhar	453
19.	Sanjay (Jarilla)	442

Non-Coverage of Karimganj, Assam by Doordarshan Network

2036. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a low powered transmitter to transmit Delhi Doordarshan programme has been set up at Silchar in Assam in order to meet the threat of cultural invasion from Bangladesh through its T.V. programme;

(b) whether Karimganj, the border district of Assam, still remains uncovered by the doordarshan network; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to bring karimganj district under the Doordarshan network ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) :

(a) The low power (100 W) T.V. transmitter set up at Silchar relays programmes put out from Delhi via INSAT-1 B.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Replacement of the existing low power T.V. transmitter at Silchar by a high power (10 KW) transmitter is a scheme under implementation. On implementation of this scheme, it is expected that Karimganj district would receive T V. service.

[Translation]

Production and Export of Grapes

2037. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :
SHRI VISHNU MODI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers of various States have shown interest in growing grapes ;