

in the country during the crop-year 1984-85 was 66.8 lakh bales, which is higher than the 1983-84 production level of 63.2 lakh bales.

(c) In order to increase the production of Jute in the country during 1985-86, a Centrally sponsored Scheme on Intensive Jute Development Programme is in operation in seven major jute producing States. In this scheme, incentives are being provided to jute growers for :-

- (i) Improved certified seeds;
- (ii) Use of weedicides;
- (iii) Use of drill and Wheelhoe;
- (iv) Demonstration on Scientific cultivation;
- (v) Construction of retting tanks;
- (vi) Providing minikits;
- (vii) Stipend for training in jute grading etc.

Setting Up of TV Relay Station at Ram Nagar in Kasargod District (Kerala)

4164. SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to set up a television relay station at Ram Nagar in Kasargod District (Kerala); and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) & (b) It is envisaged to set up a low power (100W) TV transmitter at Kasargod during the VII Plan period. Implementation of this scheme would, however, depend on year-wise availability of resources.

Decline in Per Capita Availability of Land and Cultivation

4165. DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the availability of land per capita and land for per capita cultivation has declined during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present position in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c) Land being a fixed natural resource, its per capita availability, both in terms of total and that available for cultivation, is likely to decline over years with increases in population. Per capita total land availability and that available for cultivation during the period 1981-82 to 1984-85 is as under :-

Year	(Area in ha)	
	Per capita total land	Per capita cultivable land
1981-82	0.47	0.26
1982-83	0.46	0.26
1983-84	0.45	0.25
1984-85	0.44	0.25

Disappearance of HYV of Rice

4166. PROF. K.V THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that as a result of the introduction of High Yielding Varieties of rice, a large number of varities of rice growing earlier are disappearing; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to preserve these varieties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Every effort is being made by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to collect, conserve and catalogue all the local germplasm of rice. The Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack and the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources have been organising plant exploration and collection expeditions in the country to collect rice germplasm. About 16,000 varieties so far collected are maintained at Cuttack. A