

[English]

Production of Soyabean

3950. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the actual demand and production of soyabean during 1994-95 in the country and the target fixed for 1995-96;

(b) whether the target set for 1994-95 has been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to achieve the target during 1995-96;

(e) whether the Government have decided to import the soyabean to meet the domestic demand;

(f) if so, whether the Government have assessed the likely adverse impact of such import on domestic growers; and

(g) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (c). The target for soyabean production during 1994-95 fixed on the basis of requirements, was 40.00 lakh tonnes; against this a production of 36.80 lakh tonnes is expected. This is because of less area covered under the crop in the major soyabean producing States due to excessive rains. The target for the year 1995-96 has been fixed at 43.00 lakh tonnes.

(d) In order to increase the productivity and production of soyabean in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Oilseeds Production Programme is being implemented in the major soyabean growing States under which financial assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds, demonstrations to transfer technology, distribution of sprinkler irrigation systems and improved, farm implements, distribution of Gypsum, Pyrites and micro-nutrients, etc

(e) to (g). In view of the shortfall in production in the year 1994-95, some solvent extraction units under the Soyabean Processors Association have been permitted to import soyabean under certain conditions.

[Translation]

Train between Jind and Delhi

3951. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new train from Jind to Delhi in the morning; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to operational constraints and lack of resources.

[English]

Agricultural Universities

3952. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise details of the Agricultural Universities functioning presently in the country and details of their funding/financing;

(b) whether the Government have undertaken any study/assessment in recent years which has revealed that the number of agricultural universities/colleges functioning presently in the country far exceeds our needs;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any body like the University Grants Commission at the Union Government level or otherwise to regulate setting up funding, recognition, evaluating of quality of education and training imparted, standard of education etc.;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, whether there is any proposal to set up the same in consultation with State Governments; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Information has been given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research acts as University Grants Commission for Agricultural Universities in the country. However, agricultural education being a State Subject, setting up of colleges and universities falls within the purview of states. As far as development and research grants, recognition, evaluation of quality of education and training imparted, a standard of education etc. are concerned, the Council performs these functions through committees set up for the purposes.

(f) and (g). Does not arise.