

**Meetings on Jharkhand issue**

2740. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA  
WANNIK:  
SHRI SHAILENDRA  
MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government convened a number of meetings to discuss the Jharkhand issue during February, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main points discussed in those meetings; and

(d) the follow-up action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The Union Home Minister held discussion on Jharkhand issue with the Chief Minister of Bihar and West Bengal on 18.2.1992. The Chief Ministers of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh could not attend the meeting due to their other pre-occupations. Following this the Union Home Secretary held discussions with the Chief Secretaries, Governments of West Bengal, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh and the Home secre-

tary, Government of Bihar on 27.2. 1992.

(b) to (d). Various issues relating to a separate Jharkhand State covering these four States were discussed including the provisions of the Jharkhand Area Development Council Bill passed by the Bihar State Legislature.

**Area under cotton cultivation**

2741. SHRIPRASRAMBHARDWAJ:  
SHRI MANIKRAO HOLDYA  
GAVIT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the area under cotton cultivation in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the area under cotton cultivation in these States have decreased;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the corrective measures taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The area under cotton cultivation in maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during the last three years is as under:-

(Lakh hectares)

Year	Maharashtra	Madhya Pradesh
1988-89	26.3	5.6
1989-90	26.4	5.8
1990-91	27.3	5.9

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Govt. of India is implementing In-

tensive cotten development programme (ICDP) in important cotton growing States including Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh for increasing productivity of cotton. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided