

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Cultivation of Crops in Karnataka

2018. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the yields of crops in Karnataka has crossed the target earmarked for the year 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government so that yield reach the estimated target fixed for 1993-94;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). The final estimates of production of different crops for 1992-93 have not yet become due from the States. However, according to present indications, the production of foodgrains, oilseeds and cotton is likely to cross or achieve the target set for 1992-93 as per details given below:

	<i>Lakh Tones</i>	
	<i>Target</i>	<i>Likely Achievement</i>
Foodgrains	72.89	78.0
Oilseeds	14.60	14.60
Cotton (Lakh bales of 170 Kgs. each)	9.00	9.00

(c) The crop production oriented programmes which are under implementation, are likely to be continued to achieve the targets of production for 1993-94.

Fail in Price of Pepper

2019. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the decline in price of pepper;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the price of pepper;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a separate Pepper Corporation of India and Pepper products manufacturing units with foreign collaborations;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The wholesale prices of pepper in major producing States have declined in recent months. The increased availability of the commodity in the domestic market, arising out of a larger output and lower export demand, has brought about the decline in prices. Indian exports of pepper have fallen largely on account of fall in demand from USSR and stiff competition faced by Indian exporters from other pepper exporting countries.

(c) Since domestic prices of pepper are greatly influenced by the export of the commodity, the Government have been taken steps to widen the scope of exports. The steps undertaken are: (a) suspension of export cess of pepper till 30th September 1993, (b) sanction of a technical credit to Russian Federation for import of pepper from India and (c) manufacturers and pro