

	1	2
3.	No. of Dairy Cooperative Societies	50,000
4.	No. of farmer members (lakhs)	100.2
5.	Average milk procurement (LLPD)	122.20

LLPD—Lakh litres per day

Production of foodgrains per hectare

366. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that inspite of increase in production of foodgrains to about 150 million tonnes, the per hectare yield in India is one of the lowest; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to increase per hectare yield in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Although the per hectare yield of foodgrains in India is one of the lowest, it has shown an upward trend during the last few years, particularly in case of wheat and rice.

(b) The measures being taken by Government to increase the per hectare yield in the country, inter-alia, include :

- (i) Maximisation of productivity in irrigated areas;
- (ii) Timely, easy and adequate supply of agricultural inputs, like, technology, seeds, fertilisers, implements, plant protection, chemicals, credit, etc.;
- (iii) Increasing the area under High Yielding Varieties Programme from 56 million ha. in 1984-85 to 70.5 million ha. by the end of Seventh Plan;

(iv) Greater attention to dryland farming through watershed management, use of seed-cum-fertiliser drills, increased use of fertiliser and seed of short duration varieties and cultivation of coarse grains and pulses;

(v) Production of sufficient seeds of different classes, namely, breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed so as to cover targetted areas under High Yielding Programme. It is envisaged to replace 20% seed of self pollinated varieties and 100% of hybrids, each year;

(vi) Adoption of area approach in potential districts for increasing the production of various crops;

(vii) Adoption of integrated plant protection measures;

(viii) Introduction of cropping systems to overcome risks of crops failures due to droughts;

(ix) Assuring remunerative prices of various food crops to the farmers and their announcement before the sowing season and also organisational support for purchase of commodities at these prices;

(x) Intensification of reasearch efforts so as to extend the benefits of new technology to

more farmers;

- (xi) To protect the interests of both farmers and consumers by attending to the requirements of production, processing, storage, marketing and distribution in an integrated manner.

Production and availability of fertilizers

367. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "Fertilizer production below installed capacity" appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated 20 June 1986;

(b) if so, the quantum of fertilizer produced by each of the fertiliser units in the public sector during the year 1985-86;

(c) whether due to shortage of fertilizers the farmers are not getting the fertilizers at a reasonable price;

(d) whether the steps taken by Government have resulted in an increase in the production of fertilisers; and

(e) if so, what further steps are contemplated by Government to boost the production of fertilisers in the country and also make available the same at a uniform price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement containing the requisite details is given below.

(c) No, Sir. Fertilizer availability in almost all parts of the country is more than satisfactory. It is also the policy of the Government to make fertilizers available to the farmers at stable and reasonable prices. To ensure this, Government exercises statutory control

over selling prices, which are kept at a reasonable level through Government subsidy.

(d) Yes, Sir. There has been a substantial increase in production of fertilizers which is treated as a priority industry by the Government. The production of fertilizer nutrients (Nitrogen and Phosphates) during the first year of the Seventh Plan (1985-86) touched a level of 57.56 lakh tonnes as against 30.05 lakh tonnes of nutrients in the first year of Sixth Plan (1980-81).

(e) A major programme has been undertaken to increase further the production of fertilizers in the country during the Seventh Plan period. As a part of this programme, fifteen fertilizer projects, including expansion schemes, have been taken in hand, to add substantially to the fertilizer capacity already under operation. Efforts are also being made to optimise production in the existing fertilizer plants by modernising them and also by providing captive power units.

Government are already fixing uniform, statutory maximum retail prices of fertilizers under the Fertilizer Control Order.

Statement

Production of fertilizers in public sector units during the year 1985-86

Name of the unit	Production (In thousand tonnes) 1985-86
A. Nitrogenous Fertilizers (Nitrogen)	
1	2
Sindri Modernisation	74.1
Gorakhpur	78.9
Ramagundam	55.3
Talcher	52.9
Nangal-I	60.8
Nangal-II	138.3