

Firm estimates of production of various crops have not yet been received from the States. The production of various crops is likely to show a short fall from the envisaged plan targets for 1987-88 due to drought/flood conditions. However the rabi prospects appear to be better than that of last rabi season.

#### **Settlement of Crop Insurance Claims**

920. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the crop insurance claims for certain types of crops like jowar have not been settled in many States so far;

(b) if so, the number of complaints for non-settlement of claims received from different blocks in each State, and

(c) the particulars of the final authority to settle the disputed claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) Most of the indemnity claims of the implementing States/Union Territories for all crops covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) including jowar of Kharif 1985, Rabi 1985-86 and Kharif 1986 seasons have been approved by the Government of India. Action has already been taken to approve indemnity claims payable for Rabi 1986-87 season. Indemnity claims for Kharif 1987 season would be processed by the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) on receipt of yield data from the implementing States.

(b) No information is available as to the number of complaints for non-settlement of claims received from each block in each State.

(c) The authority to settle the disputed claims are Government of India and the State Governments.

#### **Telecast of TV Serial 'Mahabharata'**

921. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI:  
SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:  
SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a TV serial 'Mahabharata' is proposed to be telecast by Doordarshan on the National hookup;

(b) if so, the names of the producer and director of the serial and the number of episodes it consists of;

(c) the time by which Doordarshan will start telecast of the serial; and

(d) whether the script has been approved?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri B.R Chopra is the producer/director of the proposed serial. The serial is likely to have 52 episodes of 50 mts. each.

(c) The date has not been fixed.

(d) Doordarshan has given concept approval to the serial 'Mahabharat'

#### **Conducting of Film Festival in Kerala**

922. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance given by Union Government to conduct the Film Festival in Kerala;

(b) whether there is a complaint that some of the foreign films shown in the festival were too much sexy; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to bring