

Increase in Pulses and Oilseeds Production

54. **SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :**

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV

Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to concentrate on increasing the output of oilseeds and pulses in future in view of the high level of import of edible oils and low level of availability of pulses;

(b) if so, the strategies to be followed; and

(c) whether research and development work on ICAR projects will be restructured to make all out effort to increase output of oilseeds and pulses ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government propose to adopt the following strategies in future :—

OILSEEDS

- (i) To increase the area under irrigated oilseed crops, extension of area through double cropping/sequential cropping/inter-cropping and replacement of crops of low economic value;
- (ii) Maximising yield levels by the use of quality seeds, adoption of improved package of practices, including plant protection measures;
- (iii) Development of red oil palm cultivation in Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- (iv) Restructuring the edible oil and oil seed production and marketing through National Dairy Development Board Projects; and
- (v) The National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board has been set up to bring about integrated development of oilseeds

production, processing and marketing and also for the development of the vegetable oils industry.

PULSES

- (i) Extension of pulses in irrigated area;
- (ii) Bringing additional area under short duration varieties of pulses in rice fallows by utilising the residual moisture in Rabi season;
- (iii) Cultivation of short duration varieties of moong and urad with irrigation in summer as a catch crop.
- (iv) Inter-cropping of Arhar in soya-bean, bajra, cotton, sugarcane and groundnut, both under irrigated and unirrigated conditions;
- (v) Maximising the yield levels by the use of improved seeds, adoption of improved package of practices including plant protection measures and price support; and
- (vi) Replacement of Khesri dal by gram, peas and other pulses.

(c) Yes, Sir. The research and development work on pulses and oilseeds has been reoriented from time to time keeping in view the changing needs of these groups of crops. During the 7th Plan the major thrust would be on increasing productivity, development of early maturing and disease resistant varieties and evolving area specific technology.

Farming Strategy for Drought-prone Areas in Bihar

55. **SHRI SATYENDRA ARYAN SINHA :** Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research has advised any specific strategy of farming for acute drought prone areas of Bihar like Palamau district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, when such a strategy would be evolved?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). No specific strategy has been advised for the Palamau District but a Centre for Dry Farming Research is located since 1971 in Kanke in Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad. This centre has generated research information with regard to crop introduction, crop improvement, improved farm machinery for tillage, seeding and fertilizer application use of fertilizers and plant protection, chemicals, soil and moisture conservation measures and planning for aberrant weather. These findings are equally applicable to Palamau District.

A beginning has also been made by arranging Orientation Training for dryland farmers at Daltongang on dry farming techniques. Also a watershed of 2258 ha has been selected at Gurustinala, 10 km away from Daltongang in 1984, where soil and moisture conservation measures and package of practices of dry farming techniques will be demonstrated.

Assistance to Coconut Growers

56. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coconut Board has any new scheme for extending the areas of coconut cultivation and provide assistance to the growers to maximise production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Coconut Development Board is implementing seven

schemes for extending the area of coconut cultivation and for providing assistance to the growers to maximise production. These schemes are (1) Project for extension of area under coconut in 12 States and 3 Union Territories. (2) Cocount plantation on canal embankment in Orissa. (3) Coconut plantation on khas land in Tripura. (4) Production of quality coconut seedlings at the headquarters of the Coconut Development Board and in Karnataka. (5) Establishment of hybrid seed garden in Tamil Nadu and 12 pilot hybrid testing centres. (6) Providing financial assistance to cocount growers for removal of root-wilt affected coconut palms in Kerala and (7) Providing assistance for irrigation facilities to cocount growers in six States. The total cost of these projects is Rs. 1478.784 lakhs. Besides, two new schemes have been proposed by the Coconut Development Board for implementing during Seventh Plan with an estimated outlay of Rs. 529.86 lakh. These are—(1) Establishment of demonstration-cum-seed Production Farms for Coconutton States; and (2) Establishment of Field Publicity Unit. These Projects are under examination.

Completion of Irrigation Projects in Kerala

57. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of major and medium irrigation projects which are pending completion in Kerala;

(b) the total irrigation potential that will be added on the completion of these projects; and

(c) by what time these will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). The required information is given below ;