

of yield per hectare of pulses was 0.06 per cent only from 1952-53 to 1978-79

(b) (i) Pulses are subject to high degree of instability in production from year to year, as these are grown mainly under rainfed conditions, mostly on marginal and sub-marginal lands and the irrigated area under pulses is as low as 8 per cent.

(ii) Pulses are susceptible to a number of insect pests and diseases such as pod-borer and wilt in gram and arhar, and mosaic in urd and moong. Both gram and arhar are susceptible to frost.

(iii) Pulses are energy rich crops but are cultivated largely under conditions of energy starvation. The farmers generally do not apply chemical fertiliser or organic manures in pulses and also do not adopt plant protection measures, as the yields per hectare of pulses are low. The available varieties of pulses are also not as responsive to fertiliser application as those in cereals.

Urban Land Ceiling Act

840. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States have sent their reactions to the report of the working group set up by the Central Government to review the working of the **Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976**; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND
HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NA-
RAIN SINGH): (a) Several State
Governments have sent their reactions.

(b) It will not be in public interest to reveal the details at this stage as the Government have not taken a final decision so far.

Conversion of Chandernagore Tele- phone Exchange into Automatic Exchange

841. PROF. RUPCHAND PAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the Chandernagore Telephone Exchange under Calcutta Telephones into Automatic Exchanges; and

(b) if so, by what time the above conversion may be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) Land is proposed to be acquired for the automatic exchange building. It is too early to give a target date for completion of conversion.

Difference in payment of bonus to Railway Employees and P&T Employees

842. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHAS-
TRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gov-
ernment had decided to grant pro-
ductivity-linked bonus equal to salary
of 25 days in a year to Railway, Post
and Telegraph and Other Government
employees;

(b) if so, whether they had been
paid bonus equal to the salary of
aforesaid days last year;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact
that Railway and Post and Telegraph
employees have been paid bonus equal
to the salary of 23 days and 15 days
respectively during the current year;
and

(d) if so, the reasons for giving
bonus to Railway employees equal
to the salary of 23 days and P&T
employees equal to the 15 days salary?