

(c) According to the Sixth Plan document (1980-85) the total number of problem villages which remained to be covered with safe drinking water facilities as on 1-4-1980 is estimated at 1.90 lakhs.

World Food security Plan

4775. SHRI JAI NARAYAN ROAT :
SHRI B. V. DESAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a comprehensive World Food Security Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any committee was appointed to frame the aims and objectives of the proposed World Food Security Plan; and

(d) if so, by what time the scheme is likely to be started and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (d). The need for a system of World Food Security was unanimously accepted at the World Food Conference in November, 1974, which also endorsed the International Undertaking on World Food Security. While adopting the resolution, the World Food Conference defined the objectives of the World Food Security in the following terms:-

"...to ensure the availability at all times of adequate food supplies of basic food stuffs, primarily cereals, so as to avoid acute food shortages in the event of wide-spread crop failure, natural or other disasters, to sustain a steady expansion of food consumption in countries with low level of per capita in-take and off-set fluctuations in production and prices."

The subject of the World Food Security has been discussed at various international forums like FAO Committee

on World Food Security, Commonwealth Heads of Govts. Meeting, International Wheat Council, World Food Council, Cancun meeting etc. No concrete arrangements at international level have, however, been finalized so far. However, so far as India is concerned, the Govt's policies already aim at increased agricultural production in the country and ensuring availability of food by means of adequate buffer stocks and effective public distribution.

Averting World Food crisis

4776. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(t) whether Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organisation has given warning of increasing world food crisis, while speaking on the 'World Food Day' at Delhi on 15th October, 1981;

(b) whether it is a fact that World Food Production has not increased by more than ½ per cent during 1979 and 1980;

(c) the total production of food grain in the country during the year 1981 Kharif Season and the expected production of food-grain and cereals in the Rabi Season of 1981-82;

(d) what is estimated total food stock with (i) Central and State Government in the country (ii) in the private godowns and Mandis as on 30 October, 1981; and

(e) arrangement made for equitable distribution, of foodgrain and cereals as Government planned in the event of acute food shortage of capacity for the year 1982-83?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No.

(b) According to F.A.O., world food production in 1980 increased by 0.5 per cent as against 0.9 per cent increase in 1979.

(c) The estimates of production of foodgrains for Kharif 1981 and Rabi 1981-1982 have not yet become available from the States.

(d) The total stock of foodgrains with all the public agencies was 98.82 lakh tonnes as on 1-11-1981. Information about the stocks of foodgrains in private godowns and mandis is not available.

(e) There already exists a public distribution system in the country for equitable distribution of essential commodities. At present, selected items of foodgrains such as wheat, rice, levy sugar, kerosene oil, imported edible oils and controlled cloth are distributed through the outlets of the public distribution system in the country. These items are allotted and supplied through public sector agencies to the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations at central issue price. The organisation and administration of the Public Distribution System is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations who are taking necessary steps to expand and improve the system.

Jute/Paddy ration as per stationery minimum prices fixed by A.P.C.

4777. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the jute/paddy ratio (all India basis) as per statutory minimum prices fixed by the Agricultural Prices Commission in the years 1976-77 onward till 1981-82;

(b) how was the statutory minimum price for raw jute W5 arrived at showing the proportion and value of different items that went into the cost in the year 1981-82; and

(c) when were the data collected and what had been the weightage of different types of land-holdings that went into sample designs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The jute/paddy ratio (all-India basis) as per statutory minimum support prices recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission in the years 1976-77 onward till 1981-82 are indicated below:—

Year	Jute/Paddy Ratio
1976-77	1.84
1977-78	1.83
1978-79	1.76
1979-80	1.63
1980-81	1.52
1981-82	1.52

(b) While recommending the statutory minimum support prices of raw jute W5 Grade, the Agricultural Prices Commission took into account various factors, such as, available data on cost of production, changes in input prices, inter-crop price variations and changes in terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. The cost data for 1981-82 have yet to become available.

(c) The data used were collected under the Comprehensive Scheme for studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops in India, in the States of Orissa and West Bengal during 1978-79. However, while using the data, the Agricultural Prices Commission also took into account the changes in input prices following the year to which the data relate.

As regards the weightage of different types of holdings, it may be pointed out that under the above scheme three stage stratified sampling design is followed (tehsils being the first stage unit, number of clusters from each selected tehsil the second and 10 holdings from each cluster from the third