

wheat production and what are these wheat which fetched awards and what is their average under cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). The book entitled 'Environmental Science 1978' published from Philadelphia, London and Toronto has not been received in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. However, it is recognised all over the world that no major increases in the production of wheat or any other crop are possible even with the application of fertilisers, irrigation and other inputs in the absence of suitable varieties which can take advantage of these inputs and improved management practices. The Indian Scientists during the last 15 years have evolved a large number of high yielding varieties of wheat and developed appropriate production and protection technologies for their successful cultivation. It is the availability of these wheat varieties including those introduced in the mid-sixties from Mexico and adoption of improved package of practices by the farmers with the help of Government agencies which have helped to double the average yield of wheat and increase the production from nearly 12 million tonnes to more than 36 million tonnes.

Indian Wheat Scientists have received awards *viz.* Barloug Award; Hari Om Award, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai (Team Award) and Punjab Farmers Award.

No separate information is collected for variety-wise average under cultivation.

Acreage under jute crop and raw jute prices fixed by A.P.C.

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

(a) what was the acreage under jute crop in the last four years, year-wise;

(b) what is the anticipated acreage this year;

(c) what was the Agricultural Price Commission fixed price for raw jute during the last four years, year-wise; and

(d) whether A.P.C. price for the coming season for raw jute has been fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Area under jute and mesta during the last four years was as under:—

Year	Area (Lakhs ha.)	
	Jute	Mesta
1977-78	7.97	3.65
1978-79	8.84	3.80
1979-80	8.34	3.83
1980-81	9.41	3.59

(b) The anticipated acreage during 1981-82 has been estimated at 8.27 lakh hectares under jute and 3.27 lakh hectares under mesta.

(c) Prices fixed for raw jute during the last four years were as under:—

(Rs. per qtl.)

Year	Minimum support price of raw jute	
	Recommended by the APC	Fixed by the Govt.
1978-79	150	150
1979-80	155	155
1980-81	160	160
1981-82	175	175

(d) The A.P.C. has submitted its report on price policy of raw jute for the season 1982-83. The report is under the consideration of the Government.