

Set back in achieving agricultural production target

1206. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

SHRI RASABEHARI BEHRA:

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI
SINGH:

SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD:

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL
KOCHACK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sixth Plan target of a growth rate of 4-5 per cent in foodgrains has not been achieved during the first two years of Sixth Plan despite increase in area under irrigation and under High Yielding Varieties (HYV) as well as the use of chemical fertilisers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the factors responsible for the set back or stagnation in the foodgrains production; and

(c) the measures contemplated by Government to remove the bottlenecks in the way of increased agricultural production to achieve the Sixth Plan targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) As compared to a base-level production of 127.9 million tonnes of foodgrains assumed for 1979-80 in the Sixth Plan, the actual production in 1980-81 and 1981-82 has been of the order of 129.6 and 133.1 million tonnes respectively. Thus, the average annual growth rate exceeds 2 per cent though it is less than the postulated growth rate of 3.9 per cent per annum for foodgrains production. The lower rate of growth is attributable mainly to unfavourable rainfall and weather conditions in several parts of the country during 1980-81 and 1981-82. In some parts of the country shortage of rainfall led to lower reservoir levels and diminution of hydro electric power

affecting supplies of electricity for tubewells etc. However, Government gave continuous attention to removing these difficulties and minimising their adverse impact.

(c) Measures being taken by the Government to increase agricultural production include ensuring adequate and timely availability of agricultural inputs to farmers, increase in coverage of HYV, extension of irrigation facilities, larger supply of institutional credit and adoption of dry farming technology

Agricultural Development Programme in Orissa

1207. SHRI RASABEHARI BEHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount sanctioned up to date to Orissa for implementation of Centrally sponsored Agricultural Development Programme during Sixth Five Year Plan have been fully utilised;

(b) what are the results achieved so far by implementing these programmes; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

S.C. and S.T. Engineers

1208. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state.

(a) how many engineers are there in all in his Ministry in Class I, II and III and how many of these are of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each class; and

(b) how is the efficiency of the work and administration of engineers measured and has the number of S.C. and