

**Loss of Cotton Crop due to Breach in
Bhakra Canal**

190. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a considerable loss to the farmers of Punjab and Haryana as most of their cotton crop has been destroyed due to the alleged sabotage in Bhakra Canal ;

(b) the estimated loss as a result thereof ; and

(c) whether Government propose to pay any compensation to the affected farmers and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). It is too early to assess the loss if any to cotton crop caused by alleged sabotage in Bhakra Canal.

(c) Compensation is not paid by the Government of India in such cases.

**Farmers' Representation Regarding Bonus
in respect of Wheat Produced**

191. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether farmers from Punjab and Haryana have represented to Central Government for grant of bonus in respect of production of their wheat ; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (DR. M.S. SANJEEVI RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Support Prices fixed by the Government of India provide sufficient incentive to the farmers, not only to increase production but also to sell their produce to the Government agencies. The Government of India has, therefore, discouraged payment of any extra bonus over and above support price level.

Cost of Production of Agricultural Crops

192. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that cost of production of agricultural crops has been rising steadily ;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment of it with particular reference to sugar since 1981, year-wise and State/Zone-wise and if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the study has revealed the cost of production of sugarcane is different in different States and if so, how the farmer is compensated where the cost is high vis-a-vis those States where the cost is low ; and

(d) what steps are being taken to bring down the cost of production of sugarcane in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Cost of production of some agricultural crops has shown some increase in recent years. A statement showing cost of production of sugarcane assessed under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation/Production of Principal Crops for major sugarcane-growing States for 1980-81 and subsequent period, is attached.

(c) Cost of production of sugarcane, like other crops, varies in different States due to differences in agro-climatic and socio-economic conditions. In fixing the statutory minimum price for sugarcane with a basic recovery rate upto 8.5 per cent and premium for higher rates of recovery over the basic level, it is ensured that the sugarcane