

(b) the steps being taken to improve the yield ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) Based on the information available in regard to forested land and production of timber therefrom, per hectare yield of forest timber in India as compared to Japan, Pakistan, Malaysia and Burma works out as below :—

Country	Yield per Ha. (Cubic Meters)
India	0.25
Japan	2.33
Pakistan	0.89
Malaysia	0.40
Burma	0.07

This, however, may not give correct comparative picture of the situation as obtaining in India, Japan, Pakistan, Malaysia and Burma, because all the forest are as not equiproductive or uniformly stocked, being located in widely varying climatic and soil conditions. The yield from forests also depends on various factors like (i) the species and the type of forest crop—natural or artificial, (ii) density of forest crop, (iii) type of management for which the forest crops are principally managed, (iv) market requirements and end-use pattern, (v) biotic factors such as grazing, forest fires, etc., (vi) accessibility of the area for working, (vii) individual rights and privileges of the populace staying within and on fringe of the forests.

(b) The following steps are being taken to improve the yield :—

- (1) Raising concentrated plantations of fast-growing and other economic species of industrial importance. From the beginning of the First Five Year Plan to 1968-69, 1.52 million hectares for plantations of above species have been raised. Another 0.88 million hectares of these plantations are proposed to be raised during the current Fourth Five Year Plan period.
- (2) Rehabilitation of the degraded forests.
- (3) Adoption of better and more intensive management techniques and tending operations.
- (4) Complete extraction of all materials felled by us of modern logging techniques and equipment.
- (5) Full and rational utilisation of all the species available, whether primary or secondary, by improving upon the wood conversion techniques, wood seasoning and preservation treatment.
- (6) Improvement of communications and other infra-structure.

**Research Conducted by Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, U. P.**

3609. SHRI B. S. BHAURA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun is working research schemes specifically for increasing productivity of forests and for rational utilisation of non-conventional timber by suitable treatments; and

(b) how far the researches have saved the use of conventional Timber like Teak, Sal, Wild Tack etc. in the building construction of Government since 1965-66 ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) :** (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Since 1965-66 twenty-eight Research Schemes are under implementation at F. R. I. and Colleges, Dehra Dune, which include schemes aiming at increase of productivity of forests and rational utilisation of non-conventional timbers through suitable treatments etc.

Secondary species are gradually finding use in the trade and have also been included in most of the specifications, of the Military Engineering Services, Central Public Works Department and Indian Standards Institution. The provisions for use of these species have already been incorporated in National Building code.

Since 1965-1966 near about 2000 blue print designs were supplied to various constructional agencies and Government Departments. All such designs have been prepared after carrying out researches on non-conventional timbers. A number of structures have been reported to be erected by various constructional agencies including Govt. Departments and private enterprises in different parts of the country resulting in minimum of 50% of saving in conventional timbers by using treated, non-conventional timbers than teak, sal etc.

**Preservation of Species of Bengal Tiger, Indian Rhinoceros, Cheetah from extinction**

3610. **SHRI B. S. BHAURA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the species of Bengal Tiger

and Indian Rhinoceros are fast approaching extinction ;

(b) whether Cheetah has already become an extinct species; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to preserve the species threatened with extinction ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) :** (a) Yes Sir. There has been a decrease in the number of tigers in the past 4-5 decades. But timely action by the Government in giving protection to these animals has averted the danger of their possible extinction.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The animals which are threatened with extinction have already been declared as protected animals. Shooting of those animals is banned. The export of these animals and their products have also been banned.

**Incentive Awards to Yuvak Mandals**

3611. **SHRI BHUVARAHAN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number and amount of incentive awards given to Yuvak Mandals in each State, State-wise during the last three years;

(b) the method of selecting such incentive awards for Yuvak Mandals; and

(c) the number of such Yuvak Mandals functioning in the country, State-wise?