

State Government have also taken up distribution of inputs under coordinated cotton development scheme. As a result of the steps taken under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the cotton development programmes of the State, the yield per hectare of cotton increased from 149 kgs in 1966-67 to 179 kgs. per hectare in 1970-71

(e) With a view to increasing the production of cotton the steps being taken by the Central and State Governments are

- (i) Intensification of research to evolve high yielding varieties.
- (ii) Intensive cultivation of cotton in selected areas under irrigation and assured rainfall conditions.
- (iii) The control of pests and diseases on campaign basis through ground and aerial spraying.
- (iv) Development and extension of hybrid-4 cotton a high yielding variety.
- (v) Development of cotton under irrigation projects in Nagarjunasagar project in Andhra Pradesh, Tungabhadra Project in Mysore and Rajasthan Canal.
- (vi) In addition to this an Intensive Cotton District Programme is being implemented from 1971-72 onwards in selected districts in the important cotton growing States

**Ground Water Studies in Gujarat**

1015 SHRI PRABHUDAS PATIL  
SHRI P M MEHTA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Hydrogeological survey units were set up in Gujarat and other States for undertaking systematic ground water studies in 1968-69,

(b) if so, what extent the ground water survey has been made and

(c) if so, how far the studies have proved helpful to the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF SHYER SINGH) (a) Hydrogeological survey units were set up in Gujarat for undertaken systematic groundwater studies in March, 1970.

(b) About 4,000 sq miles area has been covered under the systematic groundwater survey

(c) Groundwater studies carried out have helped the State in systematic exploitation of ground water through wells and tubewells. The percentage of failure of wells has decreased and has enabled tapping only fresh water aquifers by sealing saline zones in areas where groundwater development could not be taken up due to presence of saline water. The Groundwater studies have also provided detailed information about the depletion of groundwater level in some of the areas of the state and this will help in safe-guarding the over-exploitation of groundwater. So far the State groundwater cell has helped the state in clearing 14 areas for Agricultural Refinance Corporation/IDA schemes and 10 Rural Electrification schemes for electrification of pump sets.

The required information is being collected from other States and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as it is received.

**Report of Bhagavati Committee for Inland Waterways Development**

1016 SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 610 on the 28th May, 1971 regarding the Inland Water Transport Committee report and state when the remaining schemes referred in part (c) of the reply are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) Out of the remaining schemes in question, 4 schemes costing Rs 35.39 lakhs (as against Rs 36.37 lakhs estimated by