

### Setting up of National Council for Vocational Education

24. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing the setting up of a National Council for Vocational Education with corresponding bodies in the States for a proper review of this vocational education programmes and their coordination;

(b) if so, when this Council is likely to come into being; and

(c) whether any guidelines will be issued to States in regard to functioning of the Council?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) to (c). The All India Council of Technical Education had recommended that such a Council should be established. The proposal has also been endorsed by the Central Advisory Board of Education at its meeting held 4th and 5th November, 1974. A decision on the setting up of the National Council for Vocational Education is expected to be taken shortly.

### Production of Pulses

25. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of pulses is fast dwindling year after year, and if so their figures itemwise during the last three years together with the area and the periods;

(b) the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to increase production thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) The production of pulses has no doubt declined during the last few years although the area varied from year to year as a result of weather and rainfall conditions. The area and production of major pulses during the last 3 years is given in the Statement attached.

(b) During the year 1972-73 there was unprecedented drought in kharif and failure of late rains in September-October with the result that there was reduction in productivity in kharif pulses and shortfall in area under rabi pulses. During the year 1973-74 there was severe frost occurrence during January-February in the Northern States which resulted in severe damage to arhar (tur), gram and pea crops which were in flowering/fruiting stage during this period. This resulted in low productivity.

(c) The production of pulses is proposed to be increased by (i) increasing area under these crops by intercropping, mixed cropping and introduction of the short-duration varieties of urd, moong; cow-pea after the main crop harvest, and (ii) adoption of package of practices in cultivation of pulses by use of improved seed, phosphatic fertilizer and plant protection chemicals etc. In the Fifth Plan area of 15 lakh and 70 lakh hectares is proposed to be covered under the above mentioned two programmes respectively. The Centrally sponsored scheme initiated from kharif 1972 is being continued during the Fifth Plan. Under this scheme financial assistance has been provided to the State Governments for laying out of demonstrations on farmers fields to motivate them to adopt package of practices, seed multiplication of short-duration improved varieties of pulses, supply of pulses seed to farmers and adoption of plant protection measures etc.

## STATEMENT

## Area and Production of Major

## Pulses

A-Area in 1000 hec. acres

P-Production in 1000 tonnes

Pulse/Crop	1971-72		1972-73		1973-74	
	A	P	A	P	A	P
1 Gram . . . . .	7912.4	5080.7	6967.5	4536.8	7690.8	4005.8
2 Tur . . . . .	2345.5	1683.0	2424.1	1927.6	2576.1	1364.1
3 Kharif pulses other : than tur . . . . .	6570.5	1653.0	6387.9	1249.2	7227.9	2111.8
4 Rabi pulses other than gram . . . . .	5322.2	2676.7	5135.7	2193.1	5386.7	2272.0
<b>TOTAL PULSES</b>	<b>22150.6</b>	<b>11093.4</b>	<b>20915.2</b>	<b>9906.7</b>	<b>22881.5</b>	<b>9753.7</b>

Nitrogenous Fertilisers to Orissa  
during 1973-74

27. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government made any allotment of nitrogenous fertilisers to Orissa State during 1973-74; and

(b) if so, quantity thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). Allotment of 48501 tonnes of nitrogen, in terms of plant nutrient, was made to Orissa State from the Central Fertiliser Pool and the domestic manufacturers during 1973-74 (February 1973-January 1974).

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## Food Situation in India

28. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to refer to the remarks made by Dr. Norman Borlaug Nobel Prize winner and agricultural scientist as appeared in a local paper dated the 21st September, 1974 under the caption "Food situation grave in India" and the reactions of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHU P. SHINDE): The food situation is being kept under constant review from the short term as well as from the long term point of view, so as to sustain foodgrains production at the required level. The reported remarks are Dr. Borlaug's personal views.