

its Resident Commissioner and Principal Secretary located at New Delhi had requested in August 1997 to provide subsidy on micronutrients like zinc, iron, calcium and sulphur. No sanction could be given since the scheme of giving assistance for use of zinc sulphate which was operate before 1994 has been discontinued as the farmers have adopted the practice of using zinc in crop production in general.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Production of Kharif Crop

6174. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for the production of Kharif Crop during the financial year in the country;

(b) the total estimated production in view of the favourable weather;

(c) the sector for which Government provide grants-in-aid alongwith the amount of grants-in-aid provided during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the grants reach the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The production targets for crops are fixed by the Planning Commission in consultation with Ministry of Agriculture. For Kharif season 1998-99, Ministry of Agriculture has proposed the following targets:

Crop	Target
(Million Tonnes/Million bales)	
Rice	73.20
Jowar	7.00
Bajra	7.00
Ragi	2.50
Smaller millets	0.80
Maize	10.50
Pulses	6.10
Jute & Mesta	9.75
Cotton	14.80
Sugarcane	300.00

The production is estimated to be in line with the targets indicated above.

(c) The amount of grants-in-aid provided to the States under various programmes operated by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is given in the attached statement.

(d) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to implement the plan programmes and ensure that the benefits reach the farmers. The Central Government has a regular system of monitoring plan programmes through periodical progress reports, field visits and discussions during Kharif/Rabi Conferences and Zonal/State meetings.

Statement

Details of amount of grants-in-aid provided to States by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation under major Programmes during last three years

Sl. No.	Grants-in-aid provided to State Governments		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (provisional)
1. Crops	114.47	102.45	107.29
2. Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses	146.86	147.52	142.85
3. Rainfed Farming System	117.83	111.40	116.00
4. Fertilizer	7.47	8.87	3.41
5. Seeds	2.26	25.79	1.87
6. Plant Protection	3.68	3.63	0.80
7. Machinery	5.98	16.70	16.63
8. Extension	1.32	0.98	1.21
9. Soil & Water Conservation	63.94	66.87	73.41
10. Horticulture	107.20	145.63	143.31
11. Credit	4.24	6.26	3.52
12. Cooperation	0.98	0.60	0.56
13. Economics & Statistics	10.09	10.85	11.61
14. Census	1.40	4.53	1.83
Total	587.72	652.08	624.30

[English]

Mortal Remains

6175. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that inordinate delay is being experienced to get mortal remains of non-resident Indians who die in Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring the mortal remains without any delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) As per the practice prevalent in the Gulf countries, the bodies of deceased Indian nationals are transported to India at the expense of the foreign employers/sponsors as per the obligations stipulated in their employment contracts.

The delay in transporting the dead bodies to India is attributed to the requirement to comply with stringent local procedures. In cases of natural death, the repatriation of the body of the deceased person could take upto six weeks. In cases of accidents, suicides, murders etc., the delay could be much longer, since police investigation by the local authorities is a prerequisite and, until this is completed, other formalities such as the local District Governor's clearance, attestation of relevant documents etc., cannot be undertaken. On receipt of information regarding the death of an Indian national, the Indian diplomatic Mission/Post liaises with the family members and employer/sponsor to facilitate expeditious procedural clearances and repatriation to India on the mortal remains of the deceased.

Development of Fruits and Vegetables

6176. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope for the development of fruits, vegetables in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the last three years;

(c) whether Central assistance is being allocated for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details of the Central scheme and the funds allocated to the State of Orissa during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government have been implementing separate schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan for the development of fruits as well as vegetables in the country including Orissa. Under the Central Sector Scheme on 'Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits', assistance is being provided for distribution of quality planting material, area expansion, rejuvenation of senile orchards, training of farmers and publicity measures. Similarly, under the Central Sector Scheme on 'Production and Supply of Vegetable Seeds', assistance is being provided for production of Foundation Seed in Public

Sector, setting up of Hybrid Seed Production Units in Private Sector and for distribution of Minikits. The details of funds allocated to the Government of Orissa during the last three years is given in the statement attached.

Statement

Details of funds allocated under Central Schemes of Development of Fruits and Development of Vegetables to Government of Orissa

(Rupees in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Year	Total funds allocated to Government of Orissa under the Schemes of:	
		Fruits	Vegetables
1.	1995-96	73.03	9.50
2.	1996-97	83.83	8.90
3.	1997-98	327.70	11.03

Missile Development

6177. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether China is likely to provide nuclear umbrella to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether China has been openly helping and assisting Pakistan in the Missiles development;

(c) whether China is also helping the Myanmar Government;

(d) whether of late China has been encircling India by helping its neighbours;

(e) whether any concrete measures in this regard have been worked out by the Government;

(f) whether the experts have found that India has to match Chinese capability in nuclear technology; and

(g) if so, to what extent the Government is considering to improve its nuclear technology in comparison to China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Government are aware of the defence cooperation between China and Pakistan. However, we have not seen any official statement, so far, by China that their defence cooperation with Pakistan includes provision of a nuclear umbrella to Pakistan.

(b) Government is also aware of the supply of various types of ballistic missiles and technology by China to Pakistan.

(c) Government is aware of the extensive assistance provided by China to Myanmar in the defence field.