

(c) the details of the quantity of pulses imported during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The annual production of pulses in the country during the last three years is given below:

1995-96	123.10 lakh tonnes
1996-97	144.60 lakh tonnes
1997-98	133.50 lakh tonnes

(b) The reasons for low increasing of pulse production include:

- (i) Cultivation of pulses in less remunerative than that of cereals such as wheat, rice and oilseeds or of other commercial crops. The farmers, therefore, divert the better lands and resources for the cultivation of latter.
- (ii) Pulses are raised under rainfed conditions on marginal and sub-marginal lands, which are poor in fertility.
- (iii) The varieties available at present are susceptible to a number of diseases like yellow mosaic and powdery mildew in moong, urad and cowpea, sterility mosaic in arhar and wilt and blight in gram, reducing the yield; they are also vulnerable to termites and susceptible to pests.
- (iv) No major break-through has been achieved in pulses production technology and improvement of high yielding germ plasm. The varieties evolved in pulses have got narrow adaptability and, therefore, the farmer has to manage within the limited range to varieties for different seasons and agro-climatic situations.
- (v) The production of pulses in the off seasons that is summer/rabi is affected by stray cattle and Blue Bull, which damage pulse crops such as arhar, moong and urad more than any other crop.

(c) The quantity of pulses imported during the last three years is given below:

1995-96	4.91 lakh tonnes
1996-97	6.54 lakh tonnes
1997-98	6.59 lakh tonnes

(d) In order to increase the production of pulses in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is under implementation in 26 States/UTs. The scheme envisages financial assistance to the States for production and distribution of certified seeds, seed minkits, rhizobium culture, micro-nutrients, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, PP equipments, etc. Besides field demonstrations and farmers trainings are also being organised for the effective transfer of improved pulses production technology.

#### **Indo-Sri Lanka Accord**

2922. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to review the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord;
- (b) if so, the steps taken in that direction; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government of Sri Lanka thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **STD/ISD/PCOs in Tamil Nadu**

2923. SHRI K. KRISHNA MOORTHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of STD/ISD and Public Telephone Booths working in Tamil Nadu at present; district-wise;
- (b) the number of applications lying pending for the allocation of said booths in the State; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Information as on 30th June, 1998 is attached as statement.

(b) Number of pending applications are 56044.

(c) STD PCO Allotment Committee meetings are being convened to finalise allotment of STD PCOs where exchange capacities are available.

**Statement**

*Local PTs/STD PTs-Status as on  
30.06.1998 (Tamil Nadu)*

Sl. No.	Name of SSA	Local PTs Working	STD PTs Working
1	Chengalpet	623	434
2	Coimbatore	1557	1872
3	Cuddalore	1346	363
4	Dharmapuri	529	293
5	Erode	955	766
6	Karaikudi	810	326
7	Kumbakonam (Cauvery River Delta Area)	285	177
8	Madurai	1731	783
9	Nagercoil	532	487
10	Nilgiris	293	101
11	Pondicherry	511	119
12	Salem	1861	850
13	Trichy	2129	731
14	Thanjavur	922	193
15	Tirunelveli	802	807
16	Tuticorin	519	427
17	Vellore	1860	583
18	Virudhunagar	177	282
19	Chennai	14938	6479

**Registration of Pesticides**

2924. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pesticides, insecticides, weedicides, fungicides, etc. provisionally registered by the Registration Committee u/s 9(3B) of the Insecticides Act;

(b) whether Registration Committee has recommended and permitted import of such pesticides for specific crops;

(c) if so, the quantum allowed and norms laid down therefor; and

(d) the details of 'Neem' and Bio-pesticides registered under u/s 9(3B) and 9(4) of Insecticides Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Details are enclosed as statement-I.

(b) and (c) Registration Committee has permitted import of following pesticides in the national interest for the specific crops with the quantity as indicated:

Pesticides	Quantity	Crops
Imidacloprid 17.8% SL	100 KL	Cotton
Imidacloprid 70% WS	15 MT	
Flufenoxuron 10% DC	10 KL	Horiculture/ Floriculture
Dazomet Tech. Gr. 94%	40 MT	
Abamectin 1.9% EC	5 KL	
Paclobutrazol 23% SC	15 KL	
Piroxofop Propriyl 15% WP	145.3 MT	Wheat
Trialkoxydin 10% EC	4 KL	
Fenoxaprop-P-Ethyl 10% EC	361 KL	
Sulfosulfuron 75% WG	11.1 MT	

Besides these, import of Pheromones and Bacillus based biocides have been permitted with full commercialisation to promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

(d) The details of 'Neem' and Bio-pesticides registered U/S 9(3B) and 9(4) of the Insecticides Act, 1968 are given in the statement-II and III respectively.