

(a) whether green revolution has turned grey after 30 years and growth rate of cereals have come down in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the effective steps suggested by the experts to remedy the situation; and

(d) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Statewise growth rate of area, production and yield of cereals is shown in the enclosed Statement. The green revolution in India came into existence with the introduction of high yielding varieties of cereals particularly photo-insensitive and high fertiliser responsive varieties of wheat, rice and introduction of hybrids of cereals comprising of 81.31 million tonnes of rice, 69.27 million tonnes of wheat and 34.27 million tonnes of coarse cereals has been achieved during the year 1996-97. Due to diversion of area of coarse cereals from 47.34 million hectares during 1967-68 to 32.10 million hectares during 1996-97 to other remunerative crops, the trend of area, thereby production in total cereals has shown a marginal reduction. However, there is a continuous increase in area and production of rice and wheat.

(c) and (d) Indian Agriculture Research System (Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities) are evolving area specific latest production technologies and their recommendations are being passed on to the States for implementation through various crops development schemes. For enhancing the growth rate and sustaining the cereals production, the production technologies are being disseminated through State plans and Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Cereals Development Programmes of Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals. Besides, a Central Sector Scheme on Minikits is also being implemented so that latest released varieties of Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals are demonstrated to the farmers for their acceptance.

Statement

Statewise Compound Growth Rates of Total Cereals

State	(Percent per annum)					
	1967-68 to 1996-97			1980-81 to 1996-97		
	Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Yield
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	-1.53	2.01	3.60	-2.41	1.00	3.50
Assam	0.82	2.05	1.23	0.58	2.38	1.79
Bihar	-0.19	1.87	2.07	-0.18	2.91	3.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gujarat	-1.43	0.78	2.24	-1.78	0.07	1.88
Haryana	1.04	5.04	3.96	0.63	4.34	3.69
Himachal Pradesh	0.40	1.51	1.11	-0.07	2.00	2.08
Jammu & Kashmir	0.64	1.74	1.10	0.50	1.07	0.57
Karnataka	-0.27	1.58	1.86	-0.37	2.31	2.69
Kerala	-2.39	-1.19	1.22	-3.63	-2.23	1.45
Madhya Pradesh	0.03	2.56	2.53	-0.41	2.80	3.22
Maharashtra	-0.04	2.77	2.82	-0.76	1.85	2.63
Orissa	-0.14	1.43	1.57	-0.40	1.88	2.29
Punjab	2.26	5.13	2.81	1.37	3.49	2.10
Rajasthan	0.09	2.70	2.61	-0.26	3.09	3.36
Tamil Nadu	-1.68	0.80	2.52	-1.50	1.95	3.51
Uttar Pradesh	0.52	4.12	3.58	0.04	3.44	3.40
West Bengal	0.54	2.80	2.25	0.95	4.71	3.72
All India	0.01	2.89	2.41	-0.32	2.88	2.69

Prawn Culture

4066. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government /private parties have recieved any external assistance for promoting the prawn culture in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Complaint Cell

4067. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide any central set up to look into the complaints against the Telecommunication Department in J & K particularly in Jammu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) Sir, a P.G. Cell is functioning at Headquarter to look into the grievances of the subscribers. As per existing instructions, P.G. Cells (Complaint Cell) are also available to the subscribers at Telecom Districts and Telecom Circles. Presently, in J & K Telecom Circle, three PG Cells are working in Jammu.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Comprehensive Nuclear Power Policy

4068. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the countries are moving away from nuclear energy and are shelving their plans for setting up fast breeder reactors as the nuclear power is neither cheap nor environmentally sound nor safe and expose the workers and people living in surrounding areas to the dangerous level of radiation;

(b) whether the Government propose to make comprehensive energy policy which does not depend so crucially on fossil fuels;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the percentage of total electricity being produced from Atomic Plants and the percentage of budget of Department of Atomic Energy is being spent for generation of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The nuclear power production plans of any country are dependent on the country's energy needs. As the Atomic Power Plants emit very little amounts of green-house gases, it make them environmentally more sound as compared to other commercial energy generating sources. The cost of nuclear power generation is comparable with that of Thermal Power Plants and the Atomic Power Plants are economically competitive. As regards safety, various national and international norms of radiological releases are laid down which not only protect workers from over exposure but also ensure safety of the general public from harmful levels of radiation.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

(d) The percentage of electricity produced from Atomic Power Plants during 1997-98 is 2.1% of the total electricity production in the country. 15% of the total budget of the Department of Atomic Energy was spent on power generation during 1997-98.

[Translation]

Telephone and Telephone Exchanges Out of Order

4069. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes formulated for the proper maintenance of the installation of the telephone connection and the reasons for not implementing them;

(b) the details of the telephones particularly Public Telephones went out of order during the last two years, district-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to solve this problem in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Detailed instructions have been issued for proper maintenance of telephone exchanges. All exchanges are acceptance tested by the Department before the commissioning.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) To improve the telephone services in the country, the following steps are being taken:-

(i) All the electro-mechanical exchanges are being replaced by latest state of Art modern electronic exchanges.

(ii) Overhead lines are being replaced gradually by underground jelly filled type cables.

(iii) Replacement of old and worn out dropwire, housewiring telephone instrument etc.

(iv) Replacement of old batteries of the exchanges.

(v) Arranging additional engine alternators for areas where power supply is not reliable.

(vi) Reliable transmission media like optical fibre cable technology are being inducted in the rural network.

(vii) WLL and TDMA/PMP technologies and satellite based VPTs will be used to provide the telecom facilities in remote and rural areas.

[English]

Expansion of Doordarshan Network in Aurangabad, Maharashtra

4070. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand Doordarshan network particularly in Aurangabad District, Maharashtra;