

first-aid and so, on. There are about 42,000 such Civil Defence Wardens available in Delhi. I think, if they can be employed on the job of fire fighting and to keep a watch on all the buildings and to be on duty there, that would help very much in giving timely warning.

Decline in Oilseeds Production

*83. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI ANIL BASU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set and the actual production of oilseeds in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any possibility to get more production of oilseeds from the non-traditional States where oilseed production is less particularly in Eastern and N.E. States;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make the country self-reliant in the oilseeds?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A statement is enclosed at *Annexure I*.

(b) Rapeseed-Mustard and Sesamum are the main Oilseed crops in Eastern and North Eastern States. Vast

Mono-cropped area after paddy, fallow lands and riverine areas in the region hold good prospects for cultivation of oilseed crops like soyabean, groundnut and white sesamum with better return to farmers during kharif season, high yielding varieties of rapeseed- mustard, sunflower, linseed and summer groundnut can fetch additional return to the farmers as rabi summer crops. With this view, the Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses and National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD Board) are promoting oilseeds cultivation in the Eastern and North Eastern States through demonstration of improved production technology and popularisation of high yielding varieties/hybrids through minikit programmes.

(c) The potential crops in Eastern and North-Eastern States are given in *Annexure II*.

(d) A Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in 22 major Oilseeds growing States for increasing the production and the productivity of oilseeds and to make the country self-reliant. Under the programme various incentives by way of subsidies are being provided on critical inputs like production and distribution of seed, minikits, rhizobium culture, gypsum/pyrite, improved farm implements, plant protection equipments, sprinkler sets etc. In addition, frontline and general demonstrations are organised of farmer's field to transfer the production technology. The project to promote the-cultivation of oil palm has also been taken up in the country to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils.

In order to supplement the Oilseeds Production further in the country, the oil is also extracted from non-traditional sources like cotton-seed and rice bran and also the forest based oilseeds are exploited upto some extent.

ANNEXURE I

(Lakh tonnes)

S. No.	State	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement (Estimated)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26.0	21.1	25.0	28.4	24.75	23.65
2.	Assam	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.84	2.0
3.	Bihar	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.4	2.06	1.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Gujarat	30.0	37.1	29.0	21.6	28.50	35.9
5.	Haryana	8.0	8.6	8.5	8.2	8.08	9.9
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.2	0.8	—	0.8	—	0.8
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.5	0.27	0.5	0.27	0.50	0.32
8.	Karnataka	19.0	15.4	18.7	17.9	17.87	18.2
9.	Madhya Pradesh	41.5	38.6	42.0	49.0	46.42	50.0
10.	Maharashtra	19.0	18.1	22.0	19.8	21.15	24.2
11.	Orissa	9.0	2.4	7.5	2.4	7.38	1.9
12.	Punjab	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.71	3.3
13.	Rajasthan	26.0	28.3	27.2	30.7	30.17	35.7
14.	Tamil Nadu	15.0	18.7	17.2	20.4	16.35	17.2
15.	Uttar Pradesh	13.0	13.8	15.5	14.7	15.64	15.5
16.	West Bengal	5.0	4.1	4.6	4.1	4.68	4.2
17.	Others	1.3	0.53	0.9	0.33	1.90	0.43
All India :		220.0	213.4	225.0	224.3	230.0	244.6

*ANNEXURE II**List of Potential crops indicated against each State*

Eastern States	Potential Crops
1	2
Bihar	Groundnut, Sunflower, Sesamum, Safflower, Soyabean, Niger, Castor and Linseed
West Bengal	Groundnut, Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Sunflower & Linseed
Orissa	Groundnut, Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Niger, Castor, Linseed, Sunflower, Safflower & Soyabean

North Eastern States	Popular & Potential Crops
Assam	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Linseed, Soyabean, Groundnut & Niger
Manipur	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Sunflower & Soyabean
Meghalaya	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum & Soyabean
Mizoram	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Soyabean & Groundnut
Nagaland	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Soyabean, Groundnut, Linseed & Sunflower
Arunachal Pradesh	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Soyabean & Groundnut
Sikkim	Rapeseed-Mustard, Soyabean
Tripura	Groundnut, Sesam & Rapeseed-Mustard

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA : Realising the importance of oilseed crops and the role of edible oil in nutrition security and to check foreign exchange balances, oilseeds was brought under the Technology Mission of Oilseeds (TMO) in 1986 by the Union Government. An expanded amount of Rs. 94.56 crore had been provided in every year's Budget. The annual growth rate of production was ten per cent between 1987-88 and 1992-93, which dropped to 2.5 per cent. Since then the oilseeds production has reduced. Thereafter, a plateau around 21 million tonnes has been reached.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister how the Government will break the plateau.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a fact that the production of oil seed has increased but the cost of production is also on the increase. Therefore, in order to check this expenditure, there is a need for evolving a special scheme so that the productivity could be increased. Earlier, due to area extension the production had increased rapidly, but now area limitation is there, so there is a need to increase the productivity of oil seeds. We have not been able to provide the

required assistance to the farmers in our budget for increasing the productivity. That's why, we have to import oil. As I have already informed, the import is increasing gradually. During 1994-95, the import was to the tune of Rs. 625 crore in 1995-96 it was Rs. 2261 crores and in 1996-97, it was Rs. 3000 crores. We can meet the demand by increasing the productivity. It will take time to increase the production of Palm oil because after plantation of palm tree it take several years to grow. It is cheaper. The Department has formulated a scheme in this regard. There is a scheme to plant palm trees in the area of one lakh hectares during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, the oil consumption in India has increased from 6.3 kg per person per annum in 1989-90 to 8.9 kg per year as against the global average of 16 kg per year whereas the oilseed growth is required to be 13 per cent per annum to attain self-sufficiency. I would like to know from the Minister that when the growth rate of oil production is ten per cent and when it is coming down, how shall we attain self-sufficiency?

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already told that our productivity is very low as compared to the world average productivity. Our

production of soyabean is 1046 kgs. per hectare, whereas it is 1974 kgs. per hectare in the world, we are a shade better in the production of groundnut but this too is 1151 kgs. per hectare in the world, whereas it is 921 kgs. per hectare in India. Rapeseed and mustard is a third variety of oil. People use it more and grow it more as well. The production of rapeseed and mustard is 1363 kgs. per hectare in the world and our production is 851 kgs. per hectare. There is sunflower which we could produce more. Soyabean, groundnut, rapeseed and sunflower are of same variety and we could produce more to meet the demand of edible oil. Production of sunflower is 547 kgs. per hectare in India whereas it is 1306 kgs. per hectare in the world. As I have said earlier that by increasing production we could solve this problem but we don't have so much provision in the budget as to provide sufficient assistance to farmers.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether coconut has been declared as one of the oilseeds by the Government of India and, if so, whether coconut has been given all the benefits which are given to other oilseeds by the Government of India under Technology Mission?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, so far as coconut is concerned, it is under the Coconut Board. We have not yet brought it under Technology Mission. All the help required for coconut is given through the Coconut Board and adequate funds are available for that. ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : No, Sir. Coconut had been declared as oilseed during the time of the last Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, the previous Government had declared coconut as oilseed. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. You cannot ask like this.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, my specific question is whether under the Technology Mission, all the benefits have been given to coconut. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. You cannot ask like that.

Mr. Minister, the question is whether coconut is included as an oilseed and if so whether the benefits are extended to it or not.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I have already said that we get oil from coconut. I can give you all the facts on this. They are getting help from the Coconut Board. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, that is not the point.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, it is not my question. I want to know whether the benefits have been extended to coconut under the Technology Mission. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the Minister.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, it is not under the Technology Mission nor I think additional help can be available under the Technology Mission. The Coconut Board is given funds for that and you are getting help from that. If the hon. Members want more information, I am ready to discuss with them. They are welcome. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, It is not correct. Coconut is an oilseed. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramesh Chennithala, please take your seat. You cannot go on like that. Shri Mullappally Ramachandran, you have made your point. Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, let him clarify. It is not correct. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jos, you are not allowed. Please take your seat.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I have already told and I am repeating. It is cinder horticulture. It is not a seed.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, It is not correct. It is an oilseed.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : Sir, it was declared as an oilseed by the Government. We are under the impression that it is still an oilseed. If it is an oilseed it will get

benefits from the Technology Mission. It should be clarified. The hon. Minister is saying it is not an oilseed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Sir, please tell the hon. Minister to clarify. Coconut is an oilseed, recognised by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, the former Minister of Agriculture has assured the House and informed that Coconut has been included as an oilseed and benefits thereon will be given. Now the hon. Minister is saying to the contrary to the earlier decision of the Government. I demand a statement from the hon. Minister clarifying the position whether coconut is included as an oilseed or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, I am not satisfied with the answer. My specific question is whether coconut has been declared as an oilseed and whether benefits will be extended or not. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, it seems the hon. Members are not satisfied with the answer. So, kindly inform whether it is included as oilseed and if so whether the benefits are extended to coconut or not. That is all.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. The Minister will inform the Members about the specific questions raised by Shri Mullappally Ramachandran later.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, it is a treeborn oilseed. There are certain oilseeds which are treeborn oilseeds.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, Mr. Minister, that is not the point. You can inform them later about the position.

... *(Interruptions)*

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Sir, this is a very important question regarding coconut. The Government has already declared it as an oilseed. Now the Minister is saying it is not so. I want to know which is correct.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have only one minute left. The hon. Minister will inform you.

I have called Shri N.S.V. Chitthan. I request the hon. Minister to take his seat.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Sir, it is clear from Annexure-II that groundnut is being grown in all the States except the hilly States like Manipur and Meghalaya. The groundnut crop yields good returns and it is a boon to agriculturists especially in the South. Unlike paddy and wheat, groundnut can be cultivated with less irrigation and it is mostly produced in rainfed areas. When compared to other seed varieties the hybrid varieties in groundnuts are not being introduced remarkably. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will make further tangible researches and introduce effective hybrid varieties to improve the production of groundnuts to meet the needs of the nation?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, this is a very important question whether it is in Tamil Nadu or in some southern States. We can have enough of this. But what is needed is some water and sufficient number of sprinklers should be provided. Last year we could not cope up with it with the budgetary provisions. It was so not only in Tamil Nadu but also in States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. They demanded more sprinklers. But the budgetary amount was not such that we could have provided them all. That is the main reason why I am not able to do that. As regards the research of hybrid varieties we are trying for it. ...*(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Flood and Natural Calamities

*84. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the floods and natural calamities situations during 1997;

(b) if so, the details of States badly affected as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also assessed the loss of life and property;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total amount of loss incurred thereby, State-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government have received any Memoranda/detailed Memoranda from the State Governments on the floods and natural calamities;