

II. Production levels other Crops

Sl. No.	Crop	Production (In million tonnes)		Productivity (Kg/ha.)	
		1977-78	1988-89	1977-78	1988-89
1	Pulses	11.97	13.70	510	589
2	Cotton	7.24 (Million Bales)	8.69	157	202
3	Sugarcane	176.97	204.63	56160	60673

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi.

Discussion between Foreign Secretary and the Prime Minister of China

2259. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Secretary of India held any discussions with the Prime Minister of China during his recent visit to China;

(b) if so, the details of bilateral issues that figured in the discussion; and

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The Foreign Secretary called on the Chinese Premier Mr. Li Peng in Beijing on May 13, 1991 during his visit to China for the third meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group on the boundary question.

(b) Bilateral issues discussed during the meeting covered the boundary question, Tibetan activities in India, India's concern about Chinese missile supplies to Pakistan, and the forthcoming visit of the Chinese Premier to India.

On the boundary question, both sides reaffirmed that further efforts should be made towards resolving the issue in a fair, reasonable and mu-

tually acceptable manner in keeping with national interests and national sentiments.

The Chinese side referred to the activities of Tibetan refugees in India. The Foreign Secretary reiterated the Government of India's consistent stand that Tibet is an autonomous region of China and that activities incompatible with this position are not permitted on the Indian soil.

The Foreign Secretary also conveyed to the Chinese Premier India's concern about the supply of sophisticated arms and technologies, including missiles, to Pakistan by China.

Foreign Secretary informed the Chinese Premier that the Government and people of India were looking forward to his visit to this country.

(c) The invitation to Premier Li Peng to visit India has been renewed by the Prime Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao.

The two Governments are continuing their efforts to resolve all outstanding issues through peaceful dialogue.

Production of Betel Leaves

2260. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be

taken to step up research activities to increase production of Betel Leaves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): Sir, The ICAR has set up an All India Coordinated Project on betel vine with ten centres located in the important betel vine growing areas. The project has developed technology for the control of major diseases and pests and has improved the agro-techniques for increasing production of betel leaves.

Implementation of Command Area Development Programme

2261. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Command Area Development Programme is not being implemented properly?

(b) if so, the reasons therefor? and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) Command Area Development Programme initiated with the objective of better utilisation of created irrigation potential and improvement in productivity consists of many activities such as construction of field channels, field drains, land levelling, realignment of field boundaries, enforcement of rotational water supply, introduction of suitable cropping patterns, modernisation and efficient operation of irrigation system, etc. While satisfactory implementation of many components such as, field channels and rotational water supply is being generally achieved, difficulties are being faced on some of the items. The main reason for the same are budgetary constraints of the State Governments, lack of coordination between the Command Area Development Authority and Department of Irrigation, higher costs of land levelling,

slow progress of consolidation of holdings and flood problems particularly in the eastern parts of the country. The Central Government have been in continuous dialogue with the State Governments to remove these deficiencies. Evaluation studies in some States have been carried out to identify the bottlenecks project wise and remove such obstacles for the successful implementation of the programme.

Visit of Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka

2262. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of bilateral issues that figured in his talks with the Indian leaders; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Sri Lanka Foreign Minister Mr. Harold Herat visited India from 29-31 July 1991.

(b) and (c) India and Sri Lanka signed the Agreement to establish the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission. The Joint Commission will initially incorporate two Sub-Commission; One dealing with Trade, Investment and Finance and the other dealing with Educational, Social and Cultural matters. It was agreed that the Sub-commission meetings could take place in mid-November so as to prepare the ground for a meeting of the Joint Commission before the end of the year.

The two sides exchanged views on the ethnic situation in Sri Lanka and reiterated the need to seek a political solution to the problem. The two sides agreed on the need to encourage an early and voluntary return of refugees presently in India and to take steps in this regard.