

Nasirabad by 180 lines
Pushkar by 50 lines

Vijaynagar by 50 lines
Sawar by 25 lines

Pisagaon by 15 lines
Sawar by 25 lines

Masooda by 25 lines

(c) Telephone exchanges in Ajmer district which are likely to be expanded during 1990-91 are: Kharwa by 39 lines, Jawaja by 38 lines and pisagaon by 38 lines subject to the resource availability.

[English]

Target for Foodgrains Production

8165. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target for foodgrains production fixed upto the year 2000 AD;

(b) whether any assessment has been made in this regard by the Science Advisory Council;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to meet the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) No specific target for foodgrains production for 2000 A.D. has been fixed. However, according to projections made in the Seventh Five Year Plan, the estimated requirements of Foodgrains by 2000 A.D. would be 235-240 million tonnes. This estimated requirement of foodgrain production might get

revised when the Eighth Five Year Plan is finalised.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Science Advisory Council has indicated that the target of foodgrains production may be approximately 250 million tonnes per annum by the end of the century.

(d) The strategy to be adopted to achieve the target would include interalia:

- (i) optimisation of areas suited for intensive agriculture;
- (ii) improvement in rainfall forecasting;
- (iii) emphasis on research in emerging areas like biotechnology, genetic engineering photosynthesis, tissue culture, bio-insecticides and pheromones and its application for aiding the growth of agricultural productivity;
- (iv) Accelerate research on dry land farming and the transfer of new technology from lab to farm to channelise more credit, and the development of marketing facilities in dry land areas;
- (v) the introduction of modern management techniques in relation to irrigation and agriculture extension services reform and revitalisation of the cooperative movement;
- (vi) increased use of fertilisers and new high yielding varieties of seed and expansion of irrigation facilities and the detailed strategies to be adopted in the Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan would be spelt out in the respective Plan documents.