

As mentioned earlier, with a view to give concerted thrust to groundnut research, a National Research Centre for Groundnut has been established at Junagadh.

Research on rapeseed-mustard, safflower and sesamum has been strengthened with the support from the International Development Research Centre of Canada (IDRC) and also from Department of Science and Technology as a part of the technical collaboration between India and Sweden. Realising that oilseed crops have a future under irrigated farming, a network of research centres was established in 16 irrigation command areas to develop oilseed-based cropping system under irrigation. To popularise the newly developing technology, these centres have been linked with Krishi Vigyan Kendras, whose function is to impart skilled training to practising farmers. Similarly, to popularise the existing knowledge on oilseed production in the rainfed areas, 30 extension education centres were established in different parts of the country and functionally they are linked to the dryfarming research and other similar centres in Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) areas.

Development of Smaller Towns Around Delhi

*204. SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop smaller towns around Delhi to save the city from the large migratory population; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a part of strategy to save Delhi from the large migratory population, five neighbouring towns, viz., Meerut and Hapur in Uttar Pradesh,

Alwar in Rajasthan and Panipat and Gurgaon in Haryana have been taken up for development under the Integrated Urban Development Programme for the National Capital Region Towns.

राजधानी और देवास के बीच सीधी टेलीफोन सेवा

*205. श्री कल चन्द वर्मा: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के एक औद्योगिक शहर को सीधी टेलीफोन सेवा द्वारा राजधानी से जोड़ने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके जोड़े जाने की संभावना कब तक है ?

संचार मंत्री (श्री सी. एम. स्टीफन):
(क) जी हां ।

(ख) 1983 के दौरान देवास को सीधी टेलीफोन सेवा द्वारा मध्य प्रदेश की राजधानी भोपाल से जोड़ने की योजना है ।

National Forest Policy

*206. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:

SHRI AHMED M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to review the national policy on forestry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exact details will be given when the Policy is finalised. However, salient points of the proposed National Forest Policy are:

(i) a greater emphasis on the ecological and environmental considerations;