

available about these people. I would like to know whether this accredited method of survey has been followed by the People of India Project. In how many villages out of those mentioned by the Minister this particular method of survey has been conducted and whether the Minister is aware that there is an opinion among some anthropologists that this method has not been carried out by the People of India Project and therefore it is a faulty project? I would like to know whether the Minister is aware of this.

KUMARI SELJA : Sir, a group of five scholars went into each of the villages. This method is time tested method, followed by our anthropologists also, which is followed all over the World. So, this is strictly followed.

### Foodgrain Production

\*944. SHRINAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for the foodgrain production during 1993-94; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the target keeping in view the reasons for the short fall in production during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### STATEMENT

The Planning Commission has proposed the target of foodgrain production during 1993-94 at 188 million tonnes.

Steps proposed to be taken to achieve the production targets for foodgrains include (i) Expansion of area under location specific high yielding varieties, (ii) thrust for increasing pro-

ductivity levels of foodgrains crops in low productivity areas and in potential areas and, (iii) timely and adequate supply of inputs to farmers. Special crop-oriented programmes such as Special Foodgrains Production Programme for Wheat and Maize and Millets, Integrated Programme for Rice Development, National Pulses Development Project, etc. would be continued to supplement the efforts of the State Government in popularising cultivation of high yielding varieties and propagating the adoption of improved Production technology. A National Watershed Development Programme has been taken up for development of rainfed areas.

[Translation]

SHRINAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to submit that the Government had made allocation for development of agriculture last year for the benefit of small farmers and marginal farmers and infrastructure for the same was developed and the work was also in progress. But this facility has been withdrawn in the Budget of the current year and no allocation has been made. It is likely to affect cultivation adversely as result of which there may be shortfall in Production whereas the target of the production of foodgrains was fixed at 188 metric ton. Through you I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government propose to make alternative arrangement or to take other measures to develop infrastructure for small and marginal farmers as the allocation for the same has been withdrawn in the Budget of the current year?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is right that the funds allocated for developing infrastructure last year has not been allocated this year. But efforts are been made for the expansion of several programmes of the Government of India, particularly the Watershed Development and development of quality seeds, so that small and marginal farmers may benefit from it. The scheme the hon. Member has referred to is not proposed for this year.

*SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Mr. Speaker,*

*Sir, the hon. Minister has not given categorical*

reply to my question. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much allocation was made last year for infrastructure development for small and marginal farmers and what is the justification of withdrawing the same this year. My second supplementary question is that it has been stated in the statement that emphasis is being laid on achieving production in some areas but nothing has been said clearly regarding North-Eastern States, especially Bihar, Assam, West Bengal, Orissa, Sikkim and Meghalaya whereas these States give out sufficient production. But in the absence of infrastructure for irrigation, the production is low there. If this facility is provided, the production can become two-fold. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Your question is becoming too lengthy.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Has the Government made or contemplates to make any special arrangement for infrastructure development in North-Eastern States?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, almost all of the programmes of the Government of India are meant for all the States. This is true that there are special programmes for North-Eastern States, especially for Kharif, Rabi and paddy crops. Be it the Government of Bihar or Orissa, all these Governments should derive benefits as much as possible from these schemes.

*[English]*

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, is it not a fact that in spite of our claim of self-sufficiency, the minimum nutritional requirement is 181 kg. per person per year. But the actual availability at present is 176 kg. In view of that, the dire necessity is to increase the productivity, as you have said. So, I would like to know from the hon.

Minister as to what concrete measures they are taking at the moment to increase the productivity, for the enhancement of funds for providing irrigational facilities.

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked a very good question, leave it there; and you will get a good reply. Please sit down. Mr. Minister, what are you going to do to increase the productivity and not production.

Now do not confuse it. It is a question of productivity.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: What the Government is doing to achieve more production in one acre of land?

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM):

*[Translation]*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, for that there are many programmes of Government of India such as.

*[English]*

Expansion of area under location specific high-yielding varieties, increase through quality seeds, increase through fertilizers, then through efficient irrigation, maximum expansion of area under irrigation, and adoption of integrated management approach. These are the schemes.

SHRI K. P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Sir, I want a categorical answer from the hon. Minister. The anticipated production during 1993-94 is 188 MT whereas last year, it was 173 MT. Though there is a supporting price, the Government has failed to make the agencies to purchase at the support-

ing price. Therefore, the farmer is not having money.

The other thing is that allocation for the NABARD, etc., for giving loans to the cooperative societies has been reduced.

How are you implementing these thing to achieve the production of 188 MT? The farmer is in a very bad shape because his produce is not being purchased.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is not relevant. I will disallow it.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: It is relevant, Sir. To achieve the production of 188 MT in the coming year, how are you making the farmer better than in the last year?

MR. SPEAKER: Disallowed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the procurement prices has been fixed up to June this year by Government. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is meant for productivity and production and not for price.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go through the question first.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir the hon Minister has stated in his statement that inputs will be made available to farmers at appropriate time. But neither the benefit of quality seeds nor that of the technology reaches in time-would he like to ensure that the farmers get full benefits in time. Does the Government have any such agency to monitor it.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is for the State Governments to decide.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYA DEOSINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned two or three things in his reply. Through you I want to submit to the hon. Minister that the prices of fertilizers have been raised all of a sudden which has adversely affected the input which was claimed to be made available to farmers freely. I, therefore, want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will bring down the prices of fertilizers to some extent and grant subsidy on fertilizers or does the Government contemplate to raise the procurement prices in proportion to the increase in fertilizer prices?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as fertilizers are concerned, it has been said here yesterday that the facilities or concessions provided to farmers, particularly to small and marginal farmers last year would continue this year also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYA DEOSINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the support price, the remunerative price and the minimum wage price have been fixed by agriculture Price Commission and the price the farmers are getting at Government purchase centres is higher than the price they get in market today. This situation has arisen for the first time. It means that the production has increased. May I know whether Governments will increase the support price and ensure that purchase centres procure farmer's produce? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will find that the support price raised during last season is much higher than the support price obtaining in previous years. The farmers of the country have benefited from it.

[English]

**SHRI JAGMIT SINGH BRAR :** The States of Punjab and Haryana are contributing a lot to increase the production of foodgrains. In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal sent by the State Government to give royalty on wheat, so that they can cope up the losses that they are incurring to give subsidies on power tariffs to the agricultural sector.

**SHRI ARVIND NETAM :** We have not received any such proposal.

**SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :** The minister has mentioned in his answer that a National Watershed Development Programme has been taken up for the development of rainfed areas. This programme could not be carried out properly because of shortage of funds. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether enough funds would be earmarked for effective functioning of the programme.

**SHRI ARVIND NETAM :** In the Seventh Plan, it was Rs. 50 crore. But in the Eighth Plan, it is increased to Rs. 1100 crore. I think it will help.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :** Let me clarify one thing first. Self-sufficiency in terms of foodgrains is really related to the poverty of the people. They cannot buy, and therefore, we are self-sufficient and we don't have to import. Now, my question relates to this aspect. Is it true that productivity in the ownership holdings of smaller size, both of land and men, is more than the bigger ones? Secondly, is it also true that productivity is lower in the Eastern Zone of the country, compared to the Western Zone? If so, the scope of increasing production and productivity is more in the Eastern Zone than in the Western Zone. What special measures are been adopted in the Eastern Zone to improve production? Thirdly, fertilizer is an important input for raising productivity. So,

would you consider enhancing subsidy of fertilizers?

**SHRI ARVIND NETAM :** It is true that the marginal and small farmers are more in number than the bigger farmers... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :** I am referring to productivity in smaller holdings of West Bengal...

**MR. SPEAKER :** You have put a very good question. Please let him answer.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :** But he has to understand my question!

**MR. SPEAKER :** Please don't disturb him. Let him answer first.

**SHRI ARVIND NETAM :** It is true that productivity in smaller holdings is less. But Government is giving incentives to small farmers by way of fertilizers, etc. It is Rs. 10,000 per tonne. This will help small and marginal farmers. High yielding seeds are also distributed among small farmers in these areas and particularly in the Eastern Zone. Transport subsidy is also given to the North Eastern States to increase their productivity.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :** My question is lost!

[*Translation*]

**SHRI BHERULAL MEENA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, South-Western and South-Eastern Rajasthan is hilly desert. The people of Rajasthan have to meet the 90 per cent of their requirement of foodgrains from outside and the ten per cent of their requirement...

**MR. SPEAKER :** The question is about the entire country.

**SHRI BHERULAL MEENA :** I am talking about production. Since there is no production,

irrigation facilities should be provided so that production may go up. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether the irrigation facilities will be provided and production increased?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is disallowed. Mr. Jena Please.

SHRISRIKANTA JENA : For the enhancement of production and productivity, there is an international campaign for the use of organic fertilizers. In the entire world, now the emphasis is on the use of organic fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers. In view of this, Is the Government of India proposing to encourage the use of organic fertilizers to increase productivity? Apart from that, there is another...

MR. SPEAKER : You have put a good question. if you go on adding, the good question gets confused. leave it at that.

SHRISRIKANTA JENA : I would like to add a small part which is very important. In China...

MR. SPEAKER : No, it is not necessary. Yes, Mr. Minister. The question is, "Are you going to use organic fertilizers?"

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : It is the policy of the Government to encourage farmers to use organic fertilizers.

MR. SPEAKER : Are concrete steps being taken?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : It is the policy of the Government.

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers get technology from Agricultural science Centres for increasing production. A number of proposals complete in all respects pertaining to setting up of the Agricultural Sci-

ence Centres are lying pending with the Centre for clearance. I want to know by when these proposals will be cleared.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a question of productivity, hence it is disallowed.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Water is the most important ingredient in increasing the production of foodgrains. Fertilizers, insecticides and seeds of good quality cannot boost production without water. The farmers buy tubewells through Government agencies and pay Rs. 2 to 3 thousand as commission to them. Will the Government make arrangements to provide cash to farmers so as to check corruption.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : This is also disallowed.?

MR. SPEAKER : I am allowing it as it is not in the fitness of things to disallow such matters.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it comes under the jurisdiction of the State Government, hence, the State Government can deal with this subject.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know the amount sanctioned to achieve the targets of increased agricultural production under Rashtriya Pan Dhara Vikas 'programme', and whether any schemes will be undertaken in States to increase the production. What is the criterion, under which schemes are prepared under National Watershed Development Programmes?

MR. SPEAKER : It has been answered just two minutes before.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT :

Mr. Speaker. Sir, irrigation facilities play a vital role in increasing the agricultural production. The farmers belonging to SC and ST rarely come in the benefited Zone of big dams as after acquiring their lands they are allotted lands out of the benefited zones. Likewise few farmers get benefit from I.R.D.P. programme. Will the Government consider to provide 100 per cent subsidy for pumps and bore-wells to the farmers belonging to SC & ST.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we provide 50 per cent subsidy at present.

SHRI TARA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as it has been stated that water management has an important place in increasing the agricultural production. The areas where deep tubewells, are being used to carry water to other areas whether it is good for those areas or not from the point of view of increasing the production? If such points are brought to the notice of the Government, will the Government take action in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER : Disallowed.

### Van Gujjars

\*945 MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to evacuate Van Gujjars living for generation in the forest cover of Rajaji National Park, Dehradun;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these Van Gujjars have requested the Government to hand-over the management of Rajaji Park instead of shifting them;

(d) if so, the extent to which Government has conceded their demand; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate them properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (e) . A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

The Gujjars are not permanent settlers of Rajaji National Park. They are nomadic people who have been seasonally migrating between high altitudes of Himalayan pastures and the foothill forests annually for generations.

The degradation of the ecosystem due to excessive lopping of trees for Gujjars' cattle trampling of grass and other rare and threatened plants by the cattle, and similar other impacts of increased human and cattle production in Rajaji National Park, has adversely affected the areas around gujjars camps and has resulted in problems like heavy soil erosion, silting up of water channels resulting in flash floods in rainy season and acute water scarcity in other seasons, loss of natural fodder for animals leading to crop raiding by elephants, and increased conflict between wildlife and human-being thus affecting other communities living around. The bio-diversity of there has been seriously affected.

In order to protect the forests and wildlife in the Rajaji National Park and at the same time to improve the quality of life of Gujjars and to bring them in the main stream of social life, and prevent their exploitation by milk vendors in urban areas, a scheme of rehabilitation of the Gujjars was formulated by U.P. Government with the approval of the Gujjars. There have been reports in the Press about some people inciting the Gujjars not to move from the Park. However, the Government of India have not received any request from the Gujjars to hand-over to them the management of the Rajaji National Park.