diesel Locomotives are most fuel efficient and will cost much less than the imported ones ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the time by which the commercial production of such locomotives is likely to start ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therfor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir. State-of-art diesel locomotives produced abroad are more fuel efficient.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A new 3100 h.p. diesel locomotive has been developed and the first locomotive is about to be turned out from Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi. This is more fuel efficient than existing diesel locomotive of Indian Railways but less efficient than State of the art locomotives produced abroad.

(d) Does not arise.

Commercial Crops

1409. SHRI SOBHANADREES WARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to State :

(a) the per hectare yield of major agricultural crops as well as commercial crops and oilseeds in the country ;

(b) whether the per hectare yield of these crops has not increased considerably as compared to the yields in several other countries ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, particularly with regard to paddy, cotton, pulses land oil seeds ; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the per hectare yield at par with the average yield of Asian countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Per hectare yield of major agricultural crops of foodgrains, commercial and oilseeds in the country during 1992-93 (latest available) is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The per hectare yield of crops in the country has increased considerably which has shown a rate of growth of 2.84% per annum during the period 1980-81 to 1992-93. The yield of foodgrains oilseeds and cotton has shown rate of growth of 3.15, 2.72 and 4.20 per cent per annum respectively during the same period. Although significant increase in the yield has been achieved, yet the yield per hectare of crops in India is relatively lower than the developed countries.

(c) The reasons for low yield per hectare in India as compared to that in developed countries may be attributed to variation in availability and adoption of modern technology as well as differences in socio-economic and agro-economic conditions of farming.

(d) In order to increase the per hectare yield of various crops, the government is implementing various crop production

oriented programmes including distribution of minikits for improved seeds, subsidy on identified farm equipments, distribution of certified seeds, organisation of demonstration and training to farmers for transfer of technology, expansion of irrigation facilities, besides providing price and market support etc.

STATEMENT

Crop			*Yield*
Rice	—	Kharif	1663
		Rabi	2758
		Total	1744
Wheat			2323
Jowar	—	Kharif	1224
		Rabi	674
		Total	989
Bajra			824
Maize	—	Kharif	1625
		Rabi	2523
		Total	1694
Ragi			1340
Small Millets			425
Barley			1668
Coarse Cereals	—	Kharif	1100
		Rabi	924

Crop			*Yield*
		Total	1065
Tur			663
Other Karif Pulses			428
Gram			673
Other Rabi Pulses			605
Pulses	—	Kharif	502
		Rabi	641
		Total	573
Foodgrains	—	Kharif	1289
		Rabi	1706
		Total	1445

COMMERCIAL CROPS YIELD IN KGS. PER HECT. — 1992-93

(ALL INDIA)

Crop			*Yield*
Groundnut	—	Kharif	950
		Rabi	1601
		Total	1060
Castorseed			936
Sesamum			361
Nigerseed			308
Soyabean			856
Sunflower	—	Kharif	456
		Rabi	654
		Total	566
Rapeseed & Mustard			773
Linseed			305
Safflower			484
Total Oilseeds	—	Kharif	779
		Rabi	813
		Total	793
Sugarcane			63810
Cotton			261
Jute			1848
Mesta			968
Jute & Mesta			1658