

Fall in Food Production

6158. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the food production during 1984-85 is likely to fall considerably short of target of 153.6 Million-tonnes ;

(b) if so, the estimated production of different items during 1984-85 and the comparative figures for 1982-83 and 1983-84 ; and

(c) the reasons for the shortfall ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRICHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR). (a) and (b) : The final estimates of production of Kharif foodgrain crops for 1984-85 have not yet been received from all the States. Those for rabi crops have not even fallen due yet. However, on the basis of preliminary reports received from states etc., it is currently assessed that the foodgrains production during 1984-85 may range between 148.5 and 150.5 million tonnes. The commodity-wise break-up during 1984-85 together with comparative figures for 1982-83 and 1983-84 is as follows :

Crop	Production (Mill Tonnes)		
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85 (anti.)
Rice	47.12	59.77	59.5 — 60.5
Wheat	42.79	45.15	46.0
Coarse grains	27.75	33.97	30.5 — 31.5
Pulses	11.86	12.65	12.5
Total foodgrains	129.52	151.54	148.5 — 150.5

Figures for 1984-85 are provisional and subject to revision on receipt of final estimates.

(c) The main reason for shortfall in production during 1984-85, vis-a-vis target is the inadequate rainfall and prolonged dry spell experienced in some parts of the country during the monsoon season (June to September) and subsequent failure of post-monsoon and winter rains.

Production of Sugar

6159. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE

AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to augment production of sugarcane in the country; and

(b) the precise plans drawn up for each of the sugarcane growing States and Andhra Pradesh in particular ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL

DEVELOPMEOT (SHRI CHANDU-LAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) In order to augment production of sugarcane in the country, the following strategy has been adopted ;

- (i) production and distribution of quality seed cane;
- (ii) expansion of area under irrigation;
- (iii) larger application of fertilizers;
- (iv) efficient management of ratoon crop;
- (v) adoption of intensive plant protection measures;
- (vi) transfer of technology; and
- (vii) training of personnel.

(b) Each State Government draws its own sugarcane development plan according to its requirements. The programmes include production and distribution of quality seed cane, demonstration of improved practices of cane cultivation both for plant and ratoon cane, plant protection measures, subsidy of inputs, training of cane development workers etc. In case of Andhra Pradesh in particular, sugarcane development plan includes a scheme to control red-rot disease and scale insects. In addition subsidies on inputs, plant protection equipments and demonstrations are also being provided.

[*Translation*]

Maintenance of Government Quarters in Aram Bagh

(160). SHRI LALA RAM KEN :
SHRI MANVENDRA
SINGH :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the Pool-wise number of Central Government quarters in Aram

Bagh, New Delhi at present;

(b) the total number of employees posted in the inquiry office for the maintenance of these quarters; and

(c) whether complaints are not being attended to even after making repeated complaints at this enquiry office ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Forty-one.

(c) This is not correct. Complaints are being attended to properly.

[*English*]

Upgradation of PIB Office at Vijayawada

6161. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representation requesting for upgradation of the Press Information Bureau office at Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh from which 10 daily Newspapers are published;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) to (c) : A communication has been received from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament on the subject. There is no proposal to upgrade the Press Information Bureau's office at Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh) at present.