

AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether more and more farmers have taken to companion cropping ;

(b) the States where this cultivation is practised more than in other States and with that results : and

(c) whether Government propose to popularise this form cultivation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDU-LAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) Yes Sir, companion cropping, with a view to minimise the risk and increase returns per ha. is being practised in suitable combinations of crops in all the States of the country, appropriate to the agro-climatic situation.

(b) and (c) : One of the strategies recommended for increasing production of oilseeds and pulses is inter-cropping (or companion cropping) with jowar, bajra, maize, sugarcane, cotton, tobacco and wheat. This practice is gaining popularity in most of the States, particularly in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Orissa, West Bengal, M.P., U.P., Gujarat, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. It has been seen that the production is generally increasing in areas where this practise has been adopted by majority of the farmers.

[*English*]

Production of Arhar Per Hectare

6201. SHRI BEZHAWADA PAPI READY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Arhar yield per hectare was 89 kg/hectare in 1960-61 and this has dropped to 678 kg/per hectare in 1982-83 and if so, reasons thereof ; and

(b) steps proposed to be taken to reorganise Research and Development Wing in the Ministry for its useful contribution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDU-LAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) The per hectare productivity of arhar was 849 Kgs in 1960-61, Kgs in 1982-83 and 769 Kgs in 1983-84. Pulses including arhar are generally taken under rainfed conditions and by small and marginal farmers with little application of inputs such as HYV seeds, fertilisers, plant protection etc. Further the crop is highly susceptible to frost and pest diseases. As such, its productivity fluctuates with the seasonal conditions and rainfall behaviour in any year.

(b) Research and Development Wing of the Government is continually geared to increase the production and productivity of agricultural crops including arhar.

Amount Spent on Advertisements by DAVP

6202. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent by Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity in 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 on all advertisements issued by them, year-wise ;

(b) the ratio/amount spent on advertisements issued to various newspapers State-wise during the above four years, year-wise ;

(c) the ratio/amount spent on advertisements issued to big, medium and small newspapers during the above four years, year-wise and category-wise ; and

(d) the ratio/amount spent on advertisements during the above four