

Cultivation of Sunflower

1758. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cultivation of sunflower during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have made any special efforts to promote cultivation of sunflower in Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL):- (a) State-wise details of area cultivated under sunflower during 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given in the attached statement.

(b) to (d) For promoting the cultivation of oilseeds including sunflower Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is being implemented in 23 States including Gujarat. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for the critical inputs like production and distribution of seed, distribution of seed minikits, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, gypsum/pyrites, micron-utrients and rhizobium culture etc. to the farmers through State Govts. In addition to this, frontline and general demonstrations are also organised on the farmers' fields to disseminate the improved production and protection technologies. An amount of Rs. 666 lakh and Rs. 1142 lakh have been released to Gujarat under OPP during 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

Statement
Cultivated Area of Sunflower

S. No.	State	Area	
		1996-97	1997-98
1.	A.P.	298.4	340.0
2.	Bihar	7.5	8.0
3.	Gujarat	0.0	10.0
4.	Haryana	61.6	100.0
5.	Karnataka	876.0	986.0
6.	M.P.	10.3	9.0
7.	Maharashtra	537.9	413.0
8.	Nagaland	2.8	—
9.	Orissa	2.0	4.0
10.	Punjab	120.0	95.0

	1	2	3	4
11.	Rajasthan		2.0	2.0
12.	Tamil Nadu		42.8	39.0
13.	Uttar Pradesh		32.7	33.0
14.	West Bengal		1.1	1.0
15.	Others		0.0	3.0
Total			1995.1	2043.0

Filling up of Vacancies

1759. SHRI ANUP LAL YADAY: Will the MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of EDDA/MC and EDBPM posts filled up in Darbhanga district of Bihar from 1997 till date;

(b) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Candidates out of them;

(c) whether any representation alleging corruption in the said appointment has been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the terms and conditions laid down by the Department in regard to the appointment of SC/ST candidates have not been followed for the said posts in Trimuhanighat, Badera and Darbhanga;

(f) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) The number of posts of EDDAMC and EDBPM filled up in Darbhanga District is as under:-

(1) EDDA-cum-EDMC : 15 (2) EDBPM : 11

(b) The number of SC and ST candidates out of them is as under:-

(1) SC : 02; (2) ST : Nil.

(c) and (d) Two representations alleging corruption in connection with the said appointments have been received. These are:-

(1) The President, Darbhanga Mahanagar Janata Dal has represented alleging demand of illegal gratification in the appointment of EDMC in Kanshi EDBO in account with Bharathi sub-office under Darbhanga Postal Division.

(2) Shri Jai Kant Sada, one of the candidates belonging

to SC has represented alleging appointment of a candidate as EDDA/MC in Trimuhanighat EDBO not belonging to SC after taking illegal gratification. These are under examination.

(e) to (g) As regards appointment of SC/ST candidates in Trimuhanighat, reply against part (d) may be seen. Regarding such appointments in Badera and Darbhanga relevant details are being obtained from Chief Postmaster General, Bihar for examination.

Telephone Exchanges in Bihar

1760. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for sanctioning a new telephone exchange;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in Bihar at present;

(c) the number of telephone exchanges opened during 1997-98, location-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up some new Telephone exchanges in the State during 1998-99; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) A new telephone exchange is sanctioned at the place where registered paid demand for telephone connection reaches ten or more and the place does not fall within the local area of an existing exchange.

(b) 852 telephone exchanges are functioning in Bihar at present.

(c) Twenty Five telephone exchanges were opened during 1997-98. Location-wise details are given in statement-I enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The details are given in Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

The No. of Telephone Exchanges Opened during 1997-98, Location-wise

Sl. No.	Location	Capacity	Type
1	2	3	4
1.	Satwara	88	C-DOT 128P
2.	Sarfuddinpur	88	CDOT 128P
3.	Majorganj	56	MILT-64
4.	Iswapur	88	C-DOT 128P
5.	Marar	184	C-DOT 256A
6.	Basia	88	C-DOT 128P
7.	Mohanpur	194	C-DOT 256A
8.	Charia Bariarpur	152	C-DOT 256B
9.	Dhanaura	152	C-DOT 256B
10.	Ganguar	152	C-DOT 256B
11.	Maghrai	88	C-DOT 128P
12.	Hemjapur	88	C-DOT 128P
13.	Ghosi	88	C-DOT 128P
14.	Orhanpur	88	C-DOT 128P
15.	Banka Bazar	88	C-DOT 128P
16.	Gurua	88	C-DOT 128P
17.	Saidpur	184	C-DOT 256A
18.	Vijayhat	88	C-DOT 128P
19.	Pratap Sagar	88	C-DOT 128P
20.	Maithon	272	C-DOT 256A+128P