

(c) and (d) Out of 30,000 hectares proposed to be brought under fruit plants during 1999-2000, an area of 19410 hectares are proposed to be covered under compact area plantation programme.

Expansion of Wheat and Paddy Cultivation

2300. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 70 per cent saleable surplus of wheat in the country comes from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and 80 per cent saleable surplus of paddy also comes from four States;

(b) whether it is a fact that there can be a good crop of paddy in Eastern regions; and

(c) if so, what action is being taken by Government for expanding the cultivation activities of paddy and wheat in other regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Market arrivals of wheat from three states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, as a percentage of all India arrivals, averaged 59.4% for the years 1995-96 to 1998-99. Likewise the market arrivals of paddy from four states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, as a percentage of all India arrivals, of paddy, averaged 81.1% for the years 1994-95 to 1997-98.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) To increase the production and productivity of paddy/wheat in other regions, the Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereal Development programmes in Rice/Wheat. Under these programmes, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation and improved farm implements. Besides, field demonstrations on farm holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology.