

(b) the quantity of cotton produced in the State of Punjab during the last three years is as under:

Year	Production
1994-95	15.00
1995-96	15.15
1996-97	16.00

ⁱ (in lakh bales of 170 Kgs. each)

SOURCE: CAB

(c) Government have liberalised the industrial policy and as per the liberalised industrial policy, notified on 25.7.91, there is no restriction on the setting up of cotton textile mills, except for certain locational restrictions, irrespective of whether the proposed mills are in the public, private or cooperative sectors.

Export Quota of cotton bales for Maharashtra

145. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken any decision to increase export quota of cotton bales to the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether a panel of Members of Rajya Sabha, appointed by the Agriculture Ministry has recommended to increase the export quota of cotton bales for the State; and

(d) if so, by when his Ministry is planning to accept the recommendations of the above said panel?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Cotton export quotas are released by the Government to various State Federations, CCI, NAFED, trade etc., from time to time every year, after taking into account all relevant factors, including estimated production, availability, domestic demand and likely

surplus of cotton, as well as price trends, etc.

(d) and (d) Ministry of Agriculture has not appointed a panel of Members of Rajya Sabha. However, a Committee of Members of Rajya Sabha on Problems of Cotton Growers constituted by the Hon'ble Chairman of Rajya Sabha on 3rd August, 1995 presented its report to Rajya Sabha on the 12th August, 1997. In the Committee's recommendations regarding the release of cotton export quota to CCI and State Cooperative Marketing Federations, there is no separate recommendation for increase in export quota exclusively for Maharashtra Federation.

Programmes/Projects to maximise use of Brahmaputra water

146. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of the Programmes/projects formulated by the Brahmaputra Board to maximise use of Brahmaputra-waters as on date and details of the targets set-out and achievement levels secured in this context?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES ("SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Since its formation in December 1981, Brahmaputra Board has drawn up Master Plans for comprehensive flood management in both the Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys. Master Plan Part-I concerns the main stem of the Brahmaputra river, master Plan Part-II concerns the river Barak and its tributaries. The Master Plan Part-III covers 38 tributaries of the Brahmaputra and 8 rivers of Tripura. Master Plans Part-I and Part-II have been approved by the Union Government for adaptation by the States to implement flood management schemes. Master Plan Part III was circulated to the concerned North Eastern States for their views and comments and on the basis of their

comments, modifications of master Plans have been taken up by the Board.

The Master Plans prepared by Brahmaputra Board suggested many viable long term and short term measures for flood management of North Eastern Region by way of constructing moderate to high dams at upper reaches of major tributaries of Barak and Brahmaputra basin. The Brahmaputra Board has already identified 13 such projects. Out of which the Detailed Project Reports for Pagladiva in Assam and Tipaimukh (Assam, Manipur, Mizoram border) have been prepared. Investigation for other projects have been taken up by the Board. The North Eastern Hydraulic and Allied Research Institute has been made operational during December, 1996, at a cost of Rs. 9.91 crore which will cater to various needs of multipurpose river valley projects of North East India.

Central Assistance for completion of irrigation works

147. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of irrigation works have

remained incomplete for want of required financial support;

(a) if so, the details of such pending irrigation projects and the cost escalation involved;

(b) whether any special financial assistance is being made available to the State of Bihar for completion of these projects on priority basis and if so, the assistance utilised by the State Government during 1996-97 and results achieved in terms of additional irrigation facilities created; and

(c) the details of the central assistance to be made available to the State for completion of incomplete irrigation projects during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) fifteen major, twenty nine medium and one ERM irrigation Projects are ongoing in Bihar. Details are enclosed at Statement-I (See below)

(c) and (d) Details of Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during 1996-97 and 1997-98 to State of Bihar are enclosed as Statement II and III respectively.

Statement-I

Details of Major, Medium and ERM Irrigation Projects of Bihar

(Rupees in crores.)

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Plan of start	Estimated cost in lakhs of rupees	Spilt. in lakhs of rupees	Wt. in lakhs of rupees
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Major</i>		V	199.24		112.84
1.	Ajoy Barrage				
2.	Subernrekha	V	2376.15		1689.9
3.	Auranga	VII	699.36		678.12
4.	Barnar	V	226.24		187.97
5.	Bateshwar Nath Pump Phase-I	V	175.85		152.17
6.	Bagmati	V	154.73		118.23
7.	Bansagar	V	118.69		82.23
8.	Ourgawati	V	266.97		194.75