

(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

(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.

(c) 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