

S.No.	Name of Schemes
15.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants
16.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture
17.	Development of Commercial Floriculture
18.	Development of Mushroom
19.	Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits
20.	Intergrated Development Programme of Cashewnut
21.	Development of Root & Tuber Crops
22.	Development of Betelvine
23.	Development of Vegetables
24.	Integrated Development of Cocoa
25.	Integrated Development of Spices

Criteria for Fixing Minimum Support Price of Cotton

152. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N.R. DASARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the minimum support price fixed for cotton for the 1996, 1997 and 1998 seasons and what are the criteria adopted in fixing this price;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices has been using the outdated data relating to the cost to production in just one or two States to fix the minimum support price as has been complained by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and steps proposed to be taken to make the minimum support price more real and remunerative to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed for two basic

varieties of cotton during the last three years are given below:

Year	Basic variety	MSP fixed by the Govt. (Rs/Qtls.
1995-96	F414/H-777	1150
	H-4	1350
1996-97	F-414/H-777	1180
	H-4	1380
1997-98	F-414/4-777	1330
	H-4	1530

On the basis of price differentials of these two basic varieties, the Ministry of Textiles fixed the MSPs for crops, the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) takes into account a number of factors viz. cost of production, changes in input prices, input/output price parity, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation partly between prices paid and prices received by the farmers, international prices of the commodities and effect on industrial cost structure, general price level and cost of living.

(b) and (c) While recommending the MSPs, the CACP takes into account the cost of production data generated under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops. The latest cost data generated under the scheme are up-dated by CACP by taking into account the changes in the prices of variable inputs. In fixing the MSPs it is also ensured that it covers the cost of production and also provides a reasonable margin of profit to give incentive to the farmers for investment and adoption of improved technology.

Failure of Mango Crop in Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

153. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a drastic failure of the mango crop especially in Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;