

cotton growers to get a reasonable price for their produce. The Government have also released an export quota of 14,995 lakh bales of cotton, of which 15,000 bales have been allotted to the Karnataka State Cooperative Marketing Federation. This has helped in stabilising cotton prices.

Assistance for increase in Rice Production

2133. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to increase rice production by increasing productivity;

(b) whether State Government of Andhra Pradesh has asked for any special assistance to increase production in rice cultivated areas; and

(c) if so, the details of any specific assistance offered to Andhra Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The steps being taken to increase rice production by increasing productivity include:

(i) increase in area under location specific high yielding varieties;

(ii) increased/efficient use of inputs like fertilizers, irrigation, water micro-nutrients herbicides, etc.;

(iii) effective control of insect pests and diseases through adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Approach and need based use of pesticides;

(iv) transfer of improved rice production technology through reorganised T and V system and through organising field demonstrations and farmers' trainings,

(v) Marketing support and remunerative prices to farmers for their surplus paddy produce; 490 R.S.—3

(vi) developing the on farm resources like irrigation facilities, farm machinery and implements, etc.;

(vii) providing credit to needy farmers for facilitating crop cultivation.

(b) and (c) A Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Programme for Rice Development" is being implemented in the State on 75:25 sharing basis, between GOI and State. Except for the assistance under this scheme, State has not asked for any other special assistance for increasing the productivity of rice.

National Agricultural Marketing Federation of India Limited

2134. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the business undertaken by National Agricultural Marketing Federation of India Limited in different agricultural commodities during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(b) the details of profit earned by National Agricultural Marketing Federation of India Limited from such business in the said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) undertakes inter-State, intra-state import and export of agricultural produce of its members on outright, joint venture and agency/consignment basis. A Statement indicating commoditywise business undertaken during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 is annexed. (See below)

(b) Details of profit earned in the above business during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 is as under:—

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Year	Gross Profit
1	1990-91	25.46
2	1991-92	30
3	1992-93	21.82