

1	2	3	4
6.	Cytomorphological studies in ber cultivars.	M. P. A. U. Rahuri.	The Scheme received on 14-8-92 is pending with ICAR as the Scientific Panel deferred the scheme for want of more desire information.
7.	Hydrological studies in Agricultural Watershed.	M. P. A. U. Rahuri.	Proposal received on 23-9-92 is being processed for consideration of Scientific Panel.
8.	Evaporatively Cooled Storage for some Fruits, Vegetables.	P. K. V. Akola	Considered by the Scientific Panel and revised proposal awaited.

Production of Agro-based items by NDDB

755. **SHRI SATISH PRADHAN** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) that in the light of successful operation of production of milk and milk products and edible oil by NDDB whether Government would encourage NDDB to undertake production of other consumer agro-based items to help farming community in the Western Region of the country;

(b) if so, the details of proposal under consideration of Government to involve NDDB in agro-based production programme in the states of Western Region and Maharashtra State in particular; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) to (c) It is already provided in the National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987 (No. 37 of 1987) that it shall be the duty and function of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to promote plan and organise programmes for the purposes of development of dairy and other agriculture based and allied industries and biologicals on an intensive and nation-wide basis and to render assistance in the implementation of such programmes. The Government of Maharashtra has requested the NDDB to implement a Fruit and Vegetable Project in Bombay.

Seed Farms under National Seeds Corporation

756. **DR. ABRAR AHMED** :

SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seed farms which are functioning at present under the National Seeds Corporation Ltd.;

(b) what are the details of profit/losses incurred by each of the farm during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) if any farm is running into losses, the reasons therefor and how Government propose to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) :

(a) The number of seed farms run by National Seeds Corporation (NSC) are as under :—

- (i) Sainj Farm, Solan (H.P.).
- (ii) Kathaganahally Farm, Bangalore (Karnataka).
- (iii) Thangadencha Farm, Nandikotkur, Kurnool District (A.P.).

(b) The financial performance of the above farms during the last three years is indicated below :

Name of the Farm	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	[Profit (+) Loss (—)]		
1	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
2	3	4	
Sainj	(—) 0.53	(+) 0.04	(—) 1.68
Kathaganahally	(—) 5.49	(—) 5.50	(—) 8.77
Thangadencha	(—) 20.20	(—) 11.36	(—) 27.49
TOTAL	(—) 26.22	(—) 16.82	(—) 37.94

(c) The major reasons for losses are :

- (i) Low yields on account of heavy rouging of off types.
- (ii) Increase in the cost of fertilisers, insecticides and other inputs.
- (iii) Drainage and irrigation problems.
- (iv) Inadequate technical staff support.
- (v) Natural calamities.

To improve the working of farms, the following steps have been taken by the management of the Corporation :

- (i) Use of genetically pure seeds.
- (ii) Production of hybrid vegetable seeds.
- (iii) Levelling and maintenance of proper drains for free flow of water.
- (iv) Construction of underground pipelines in place of open channels in order to avoid seepage.
- (v) Construction of open wells, bore wells, lift irrigation, drip irrigation to ensure timely planting of the crops and proper irrigation.
- (vi) For weeding, mechanical and chemical controls are being undertaken.
- (vii) Technical staff well experienced in the farm operation and farm management has been posted for

efficient administration and management of farm operations.

Production of Wheat in Punjab

757. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of wheat is at its lowest ebb due to militant activities in Punjab;

(b) if so, what was the total production of wheat in Punjab before militant activities;

(c) whether Government have got any proposals to boost up wheat production in Punjab; and

(d) if so, what is the first step in this direction and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The production of wheat in Punjab has increased from 85.5 lakh tonnes in 1981-82 to 123.0 lakh tonnes in 1991-92, showing an increase of 43.9% during the period of 10 years.

(c) and (d) Government of India is implementing Special Foodgrains Production Programme in major wheat growing States including Punjab, since 1988-89. The main objective of the Programme is to increase the production and productivity of wheat in the State. Under the scheme, incentives are provided to the farmers through State Governments for components like distribution of certified seeds, micro