

(h) The works on Unit-I (Dam) and Unit -II (Canals) of the project are already in progress. On the Dam, about 82 per cent of earth work and 65 per cent of the masonry and concreting work have already been completed. On the Canal System, about 56 per cent of earth work on the Right Main Canal, and 47 per cent of the earth work on the Left Bank Canal have been completed. The work on Unit-III (Power) of the project has also been taken up in hand.]

Pricing Policy for Cotton

2102. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations of the Agricultural Price Commission on the pricing policy for cotton for the year 1978-79; and

(b) what is the year to which the cost of production data of cotton provided by the Agricultural Price Commission relates?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Recommendations made by the Agricultural Prices Commission on the pricing policy for cotton for the year 1978-79 have been received by Government and are presently under consideration.

(b) In the most recent period Directorate of Economics and Statistics has made available to the Agricultural Prices Commission the cost of cultivation/production data for cotton in respect of the following States and years:

State	Year
Gujarat	1976-77 (P)
Haryana	1974-75
Karnataka	1976-77 (P)
Punjab	1975-76
Tamil Nadu	1975-76 (P)

P: Provisional.

While actually recommending the prices, A.P.C. takes into account *inter alia* the changes in the cost of inputs etc. which have taken place since the time to which the data on cost of production relates.

Production of Raw Jute

2103. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual production of raw jute and mesta in the country during the last three years;

(b) what are the names of the districts covered by the Centrally sponsored scheme of Intensive Jute District Programme; and

(c) what is the annual expenditure incurred on each such district during that period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Production of Jute and Mesta in India during the last three years from 1975-76 to 1977-78 is indicated below:

Production (in 000 bales of 180 kg. each)			
Year	Jute	Mesta	Total
1975-76	4440	1474	5914
1976-77	5353	1746	7099
1977-78	5338	1780	7118

(b) Names of districts covered under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensive Jute District Programme are given below:—

- (1) Murshidabad,
- (2) Nadia,
- (3) Cooch-Behar,
- (4) 24 Parganas,
- (5) Burdwan,
- (6) West Dinajpur,
- (7) Hooghly,
- (8) Purnea,