

हैं। भारतीय सामान्य बीमा निगम ने फसल बीमा के लिए एक योजना तैयार की है जिस पर कार्यान्वयन के लिये राज्य सरकारों के साथ विचार-विमर्श किया जा रहा है।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The General Insurance Corporation of India has formulated a scheme for crop insurance which is being discussed with the State Governments for implementation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.]

Increase in the cost of production of Agricultural Commodities

705. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state the extent of increase in the cost of production of agricultural commodities like rice, sugarcane, wheat, pulses this year as compared to that during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): The data on cost of production of crops collected at the field level in the States under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops for each year generally become available with some time lag. The position in regard to changes in cost of production as revealed by the latest cost of production data already processed is given below:

†[] English translation.

	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in the cost of production over the previous year
1. Paddy	
Andhra Pradesh (1975-76)	(+) 2.49
Karnataka (1975-76)	(+) 11.71
Orissa (1975-76)	(—) 3.37
Assam (1975-76)	(—) 14.22
West Bengal (1975-76)	(+) 5.29
2. Sugarcane	
Punjab (1975-76)	(—) 1.51
Uttar Pradesh (1975-76)	(+) 6.55
3. Wheat	
Punjab (1976-77)	(+) 2.00
Uttar Pradesh (1975-76)	(—) 1.10
Haryana (1975-76)	(—) 2.34
Madhya Pradesh (1975-76)	(—) 16.45
Rajasthan (1975-76)	(—) 15.63

NOTE: These figures are provisional and subject to revision.

As regards pulses, collection of the cost of production data for gram has been undertaken since 1975-76. Comparable data over the years are not available.

Sugarcane prices paid to the Sugarcane growers

706. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state the prices paid for sugarcane by the sugar factories and khandsari units to the sugarcane growers during 1977-78 as compared to that during 1975-76 and 1976-77?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): A statement

showing minimum price for sugarcane supplied for khandsari units fixed by the States of U.P., Andhra Pradesh and Haryana in respect of khandsari units for the season of 1977-78 is attached statement I. Two other statements showing similar prices fixed by the States of U.P. and Andhra Pradesh for the season of 1976-77 are also attached statement II and III. For the season of 1975-76 only the State of Andhra Pradesh had fixed the minimum cane prices for khandsari units and the same has been shown in another statement IV. Khandsari factories are under the control of the State Governments, and in view of their very large number, information on the actual prices paid by them is not available with the Government of India. [See Appendix CVI, Annexure No. 52 for statements Nos. I, II, III and IV].

Minimum cane prices vary actual cane prices paid by sugar factories during 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 have been shown in the other statements. Statement Nos. v, vi & vii. [See Appendix CVI, Annexure No. 53].

Prices of Chemical Fertilizers

707. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of fertilizers are very high at present;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to bring down the prices;

(c) whether Government propose to give subsidy to paddy and coconut cultivators on this account; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) Prices of fertilisers have already been reduced 6 times since July, 1975.

Besides, a number of fiscal concessions such as reduction in import duty on phosphoric acid, reduction in excise duty on single and triple super-phosphate, subsidy on phosphatic fertilisers @ Rs. 1250 per tonne of P205 etc. were given in order to reduce the end prices of fertilisers to farmers. The price of raw materials used in production of fertilisers have also been considerably reduced. The effect of all these measures has been quite substantial. As a result, the price of urea is now less by 22.5 per cent; of Diammonium Phosphate by 26.5 per cent; of Ammonium Nitrophosphate (20-20-0) by 14.3 per cent; of NPK (17-17-17) by 30.1 per cent and of muriate of potash by 34.6 per cent compared to the prices prevalent on 1-7-75. Consequently, there has been considerable improvement in the benefit-cost ratio to the farmer from use of fertilisers and this has been reflected in the increasing trend in consumption of fertilisers maintained during the last two years. The prices of fertilisers are reviewed from time to time and reductions are made as and when called for.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to give subsidy to coconut and paddy cultivators for use of chemical fertilizers.

Prosecution of Industrial Establishments for Water Pollution

708. SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution has decided to prosecute 17 or more industrial establishments in Delhi for not taking effective steps to control water pollution;

(b) if so, what are the names of these industrial establishments; and