

(d) With a view to increasing the production of cotton the steps being taken by the Central and State Government are :—

(i) Intensification of research to evolve high yielding varieties;

(ii) Intensive cultivation of cotton in selected areas under irrigation and assured rainfall conditions;

(iii) The control of pests and diseases on campaign basis through ground and aerial spraying;

(iv) Development and extension of Hybrid-4 cotton—a high yielding variety;

(v) Development of cotton under irrigation projects in Nagarjunasagar project in Andhra Pradesh. Tungabhadra Project in Mysore and Rajasathan Canal.

In addition to this an Intensive Cotton District Programme is being implemented from 1971-72 onwards in selected districts of important cotton growing States.

PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FERTILIZERS

*366. SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI :

SHRI K. C. PANDA :

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PA-
TEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/
कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita consumption of fertilizers by farmers in the country during the last three years and during the current year to-date ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the per capita consumption of fertilizers in the country has decreased; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/
कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री :
(SHRI ANNASHEB SHINDE) : (a)
to (c) A statement is placed on the table
of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The consumption of fertilizers per capita per farmer during the past three years and for kharif, 1971 is as follows :—

Year	Per capita (in consumption Kgs.)			
	N	P	K	Total
1968-69	15	5	2	22
1969-70	18	6	2	26
1970-71	19	6	3	28
Kharif, 1971	9	3	1	13

The total number of farmers has been assumed to be constant at its level reported in 1971 census.

(b) It will be seen from (a) above that per capita fertilizer consumption by farmers is increasing.

(c) Does not arise.

LOWER RATE OF INTEREST FOR SMALL FARMERS

*367. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :
SHRI M. K. MOHTA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/
कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Registrars of Cooperatives have rejected the proposal to charge lower rate of interest from Small Farmers as recommended by the Hazari Committee; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and reaction of the Government of India with regard thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/
कृषि मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (SHRI
JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) and
(b) A statement is laid on the Table of
the Sabha.