

1	2
West Bengal	35,213
UP (East)	64,365
UP (West)	28,536
Punjab	1,09,510
Rajasthan	1,13,107
Himachal Pradesh	15,409
Haryana	31,917
J&K	4,589

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) launched the scheme of providing free SIMs to existing MTNL Delhi Landline and Broadband Customers, on promotional basis, *w.e.f.* 01.11.2010 to 29.01.2011. This scheme has later been made a regular plan. However, no such scheme is available for the customers of MTNL, Mumbai.

Under the scheme, SIM/Activation charge is free through Sanchar Haats for postpaid customers and SIM and First Recharge Coupon are free for prepaid customers.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Post-harvest losses

†466. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the post-harvest losses of yield have been estimated to be very high in the country;
- (b) if so, the estimates of average annual losses in terms of quantity;
- (c) whether there is any estimation of decrease in these losses between the years 2000-2001 and 2009-2010; and
- (d) if so, the quantum of estimated decrease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the report on "Estimation of Quantitative Harvest and Post Harvest Losses of major agricultural produce in India" conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during 2005-07, the harvest and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

post-harvest losses of various agricultural produce in India was 3.9-6% for cereals, 4.3-6.1% for pulses, 2.8-10.1% for selected oilseeds and 5.8-18% in selected fruits and vegetables.

(c) and (d) There is no specific study of estimation of decrease in these losses between the years 2000-01 and 2009-10. However, as per the ICAR Study report on "Estimation of Quantitative Harvest and Post Harvest Losses of major agricultural produce in India", the total economic loss from all agricultural produce in the year 2005 was estimated to be Rs. 51,500 crores, which has been reduced to Rs. 44,000 crores in the year 2009.

Upgradation of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

†467. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether such Krishi Vigyan Kendras run schemes/programmes for the benefit of farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has identified those Krishi Vigyan Kendras which are in need of upgradation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and by when they are likely to be upgraded including those in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) There are 589 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country. The State/Union Territory-wise details of the districts with KVKs are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The activities/programmes for the benefit of farmers run under KVK scheme include testing and demonstration of agriculture technologies in farmers field; training of farmers; and creation of awareness on improved technology through various extension programmes and agro-advisory on mobile phones. Besides, the KVKs produce seeds, planting materials and livestock strains for its availability to farmers.

(d) and (e) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has identified KVKs for strengthening during Eleventh Plan with more facilities including soil and water testing, plant health diagnostic, minimal agro-processing and e-connectivity, besides demonstration units on rain water harvesting structure with micro-irrigation system, portable carp hatchery and integrated farming systems. The names of identified KVKs including those in Maharashtra for strengthening with such facilities are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.