

Dark zone regions of Gujarat

3271. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether demand for any special package for Dark Zone Regions of the country has been/is being considered by Government;
- (b) if so, the allocation made under the package to the Dark Zone regions of Gujarat;
- (c) whether the proposal for consideration of separate development board for that regions have been supported by Planning Commission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Ministry of Water Resources is implementing a scheme titled 'Artificial recharge to ground water through Dug Wells' for augmenting ground water resources in seven States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh, which are predominantly underlain by hard rock formations.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Availability of pulses

3272. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that per capita availability of pulses in the country has declined to 34 Grams from 66 Grams during last five decades;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for this sharp decline;
- (d) whether Government has taken any initiatives to encourage cultivation of pulses; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The per capita availability of pulses since 1960 has been as follows: