

(a) On account of delayed/deficient monsoon rainfall in many parts of the country during the last two consecutive years, the production of most of the crops has declined. Details of production of major agricultural crops during Kharif 2014-15 and 2015-16 *vis-à-vis* Kharif 2013-14 are given below:

Crops	Kharif Production (Million Tonnes)		
	2013-14	2014-15#	2015-16*
Rice	91.50	90.86	90.61
Coarse Cereals	31.20	29.82	27.88
Pulses	5.99	5.63	5.56
Foodgrains	128.69	126.31	124.05
Oilseeds	22.61	18.33	19.89
Sugarcane	352.14	359.33	341.43
Cotton@	35.90	35.48	33.51

*: As per 1st Advance Estimates.

#: As per 4th Advance Estimates.

@: Million Bales of 170 kg each.

(b) To enhance water use efficiency in the agriculture sector by promoting appropriate technological interventions like drip and sprinkler irrigation technologies and encourage the farmers to use water saving and conservation technologies, the Government of India has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation since January 2006.

In June, 2010, the scheme was up-scaled to National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI), which continued till 2013-14. During 2014-15, the NMMI was subsumed under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and implemented as "On Farm Water Management" (OFMW).

From 1st April, 2015, Micro Irrigation component of OFMW has been subsumed under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna with Budget Estimate of Rs. 1000.00 crore for 2015-16.

4G services by BSNL and MTNL

679. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL and MTNL plan to introduce 4G services in the country;

(b) the reasons for their lagging behind in unveiling 4G services when private players have already started the services; and

(c) whether there are any plans to tieup with private players, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have informed that presently there is no plan to start 4G services.

Misuse of social media platforms

680. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints regarding a prominent company abusing its net dominance in many instances related to business, economy and other political affairs, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has initiated any investigation against the said company in this regard;

(c) if so, the status thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the company; and

(d) the response of the Government towards the fact that misuse of social media platforms can also influence business, economy and other political affairs?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) One complaint was received in the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) regarding extra charging of Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) calls made through some of the Over The Top (OTT) services (like WhatsApp, Skype, Viber etc.) by Airtel, from its customers.

Airtel had reported exclusion of VoIP from its internet/data packs or plans and applicability of standard data rates to it effective from 23.12.2014 which was subsequently withdrawn by it w.e.f. 26.12.2014.

In the direction of firming up the Government's view on the issue of Net Neutrality, DoT has received inputs from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) consultation process & DoT's internal committee report.