

Wheat Production

†1542. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been assessed that the forthcoming wheat crops will be below its target;

(b) if so, what was the target of production togetherwith the estimate regarding the actual production;

(c) whether Government have ascertained the information regarding the reasons for less production in comparison to the target; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) As per estimates made in January 2000 the wheat production during 1999-2000 was expected to be 68.7 million tonnes as against the target of 74.0 million tonnes. The shortfall was expected mainly due to agro climatic factors. However, favourable rains and temperature conditions since then, have improved the crop prospects. Revised estimates of the production of wheat crop will be made, after discussions with the States, sometimes in the fourth week of March 2000.

Steps to increase Milk Production

1543. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether milk production is less than requirement in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to encourage increase in production and curb on export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Milk Production and Per capita Availability of milk has been steadily increasing the per capita availability of milk has increased from 173 gms in 1989-90 to 204 gms in 1997-98. The Indian Council of Medical Research has however recommended a daily intake

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of 220 gms per person per day. The per capita availability is targeted to reach 217 gms in 1999-2000 and 228 gms by 2000-2001.

(b) Besides State Government programmes, the following Central Sector/ Centrally Sponsored Plan Schemes are being implemented to increase milk production.

(i) Extension of Frozen Semen Technology & Progeny Testing Programme, (ii) National Bull Production Programme, (iii) Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development, (iv) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases, (v) Professional Efficiency Development, (vi) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication, (vii) Integrated Dairy Development Programme for Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas.

Exports of Milk and Milk Products are not significant.

Package Programme for Orissa

1544. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have announced some package programmes for the cyclone affected districts in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the amount sanctioned by Government under those package programmes;

(c) what are those package programmes; and

(d) the steps taken to implement those package programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) Besides immediate relief and rescue operations by different Departments and the Public Sector Undertakings of the Central Government, an amount of Rs.500.00 crore was released to Orissa as *ad-hoc* assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for undertaking various restoration and rehabilitation programmes for the people in the cyclone affected districts of the State.

North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation

1545. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: