

Amendment to National Policy on Agriculture

2640. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to amend the National Policy on Agriculture 2007, to achieve higher growth in agriculture sector;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether Government has invited suggestions from various stakeholders including farmers in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 was formulated on the basis of recommendation of the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) and based on consultations with various stakeholders like farmers, NGOs, bankers, scientists etc. NPF, 2007 has since been operationalised.

Cultivation of cash crops

2641. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more and more cultivators in the country are moving from food crops to cash crops;
- (b) the change in ratio between cash crops to food crops in the last one decade;
- (c) whether it is a matter of worry for Government; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) During the year 2001-02, area under food crops was 1227.80 lakh ha. which increased to 1257.25 lakh ha. in 2010-11 (4th advance estimate). Similarly, area under cash crops *i.e.* cotton, sugarcane, jute and mesta has marginally increased from 145.88 lakh ha. in 2001-02 to 169.77 lakh ha during 2010-11 (4th advance estimates).

(c) and (d) Production of foodgrains increased from 212.85 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 241.56 million tonnes during 2010-11 (4th advance estimates). The production target of foodgrains for the year 2011-12 has been fixed at 245.00 million tonnes which is likely to be achieved in view of favourable weather conditions so far. To increase production and