

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### **WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**

#### **Demand and consumption of rice and wheat**

\*441 SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the likely demand and consumption pattern of rice and wheat for the next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof. State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the current production of rice and wheat is sufficient to meet the growing demand in the country; and

(d) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to increase the production of these staple crops to feed the growing population of the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The “Working Group on Crop Husbandry, Demand and Supply Projections, Agricultural Inputs and Agricultural Statistics for the Twelfth Five Year Plan” set up by the Planning Commission has projected the demand, including demand for exports, of rice at 110 million tonnes in the terminal year *i.e.* 2016-17 of the Twelfth Plan against which between 98 to 106 million tonnes is projected to be produced. The demand for wheat has been projected at 89 million tonnes against which between 93 to 104 million tonnes is projected to be produced by the terminal year *i.e.* 2016-17 of the Twelfth Plan. The Group has not estimated State-wise and Union Territory-wise demand and consumption pattern of these commodities.

(c) The production of rice and wheat is sufficient to meet the domestic demand keeping in view that the country has been exporting sizable quantities of these commodities during the last few years.

(d) In order to increase production of rice and wheat in the country, Government has been implementing several Crop Development Scheme/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) under RKVY, etc. Under these schemes, funds are provided to States for implementation of State specific agricultural strategies including incentives to farmers for production/use of quality

seeds. Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), farm mechanization etc. Besides. Frontline Demonstrations are also organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/State Agriculture Universities on the farmers' fields to popularize frontier technologies among farmers. Further, to ensure remunerative price to farmers, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of paddy and wheat have also been increased from time to time.

#### **Upgradation of infrastructure in schools**

\*442 SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) 'whether it is a fact that despite a 52 per cent increase in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan budget for the infrastructure upgradation of schools between 2010-11 and 2012-13. it has not translated into any significant increase in the number of schools meeting the Right to Education norms:

(b) if so, the details of the infrastructural upgradation of schools made between this period; and

(c) the allocation for this sector in 2013-14 budget and the effective steps being taken to improve the infrastructure facilities in the schools ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. In 2011-12, there has been an increase of 13,803 Government elementary schools over the previous year as per elementary school statistics collected under the District Information System for Education (DISE) annual database.

Creation of school infrastructure and buildings takes time and progress is reflected in the subsequent years. Between 2010-11 and 2012-13, 30972 primary school building, 10700 upper primary school buildings. 688421 additional classrooms (in lieu of upper primary schools and as per pupil teacher ratio). 296434 toilets and 31678 drinking water facilities have been sanctioned to States/UTs under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

(c) For 2013-14, the budgetary provision indicated for SSA is Rs. 27258.00 crore, which is 14.17% higher than the RE level of 2012-13. Close monitoring of completion of school infrastructure facilities is undertaken under the SSA, to ensure