

Record production of foodgrains

3235. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is likely to achieve a record 263.2 million tonnes of foodgrains production this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this would be about 4 million tonnes higher than the record of 259 million tonnes achieved two years ago;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the country has now become top exporter of rice and second top exporter of wheat and cotton; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) During an agricultural year, the First Advance Estimates of production (covering only Kharif crops) and the Second Advance Estimates (covering Kharif as well as Rabi crops) are normally released in the months of September and February of the next calendar year respectively. Thus, the production estimates for 2014-15 are not available. However, as per Third Advance Estimates for 2013-14, total production of foodgrains in the country is estimated at record level of 264.38 million tonnes which is higher by more than 4 million tonnes as compared to the previous record foodgrains production of 259.29 million tonnes achieved during 2011-12.

(d) and (e) As per United States Department of Agriculture data for 2013-14, India is the top exporter of rice and second top exporter of cotton in the world, but its position is 8th in the export of wheat. The details of quantity of rice, wheat and cotton exported during 2012-13 and 2013-14 are as under:-

Year	Quantity exported (Thousand tonnes)		
	Rice	Wheat	Cotton
2012-13	10147.68	6514.82	1987.54
2013-14*	10892.55	5562.40	1864.69

*Provisional.