

(c) Yes, Sir. As per road-map to integrate mandis with e-NAM portal, 400 mandis are to be integrated with e-NAM portal by March, 2017 and rest 185 markets are to be integrated by March, 2018.

Financial assistance for drought affected States

1957. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance released by Government to the drought affected States during the last two years; and

(b) whether the assistance provided has met the demand of the affected States to provide relief, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government, in accordance with established procedure and guidelines on items and norms of assistance from the SDRF/NDRF issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Assistance demanded and approved from NDRF during the last two years to the drought affected States is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No 1941 (Part (a) and (b))]. Assistance under SDRF/NDRF provided is for immediate relief and not by way of compensation for the loss suffered. The main objective of the relief fund is to provide immediate assistance to farmers affected by the calamities.

Production of foodgrains

1958. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of foodgrains per head, per year and the capacity of local production;

(b) the steps taken by Government to meet out the demand; and

(c) by when the country would be surplus in foodgrains production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) The production of foodgrains depends on several factors including availability of cultivable land, vagaries of nature,