

Setting up of special agricultural zones

1148. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish special agricultural zones where only farming and agriculture related activities would be allowed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check rapid transfer of fertile and prime farm land for construction and urban development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government of India as of now.

(c) Rapid transfer of fertile and prime farm land for construction and urban development is not there.

1149. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of foodgrains has increased in record quantity as compared to the previous years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, crop-wise/foodgrain-wise during this year; and

(c) the incentive measures taken by Government for the welfare of farmers, particularly for the current season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) As per Second Advance Estimates for 2016-17 released on 15th February, 2017, total foodgrains production in the country is estimated at 271.98 million tonnes which is a new record.

Crop-wise details of foodgrains production during 2016-17 are as under:

Crop	Production (in million tonnes)
Rice	108.86
Wheat	96.64
Jowar	4.75
Bajra	9.42
Maize	26.15