

(b) whether India has asked for assistance from some BRICS countries during the BRICS Summit, if so, the details of assistance asked for and the reaction thereon; and

(c) whether any BRICS country is looking for opportunities to invest in agriculture sector in India, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The Report of Working Group of erstwhile Planning Commission on 'Food grains-Balancing Demand & Supply' had projected annual demand of pulses at 22.68 million tonnes in 2014-15, 23.62 million tonnes in 2015-16 and 24.61 million tonnes in 2016-17. At present, there are no official estimates available for variety-wise annual demand of pulses.

(b) to (c) The Goa Declaration of the 8th BRICS Summit, October 15-16, 2016 emphasizes the importance of BRICS cooperation in agriculture. Also, the Declaration adopted by BRICS Ministers of Agriculture in their meeting held on 23 September, 2016 agrees to promoting production of pulses in the BRICS countries and raise awareness among the people about their importance in dietary nutrition.

#### **Unused foodgrains in the godowns**

2950. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data about the unused foodgrains in the godowns in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Government doesn't consider any stock lying in its godowns as unused stock because it is placed there to be used for allocation under National Food Security Act and Other Welfare Schemes, as per the Foodgrain Stocking Norms.

#### **Procurement and consumption of pulses**

†2951. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of MSP and bonus provided by Government on various types of pulses during the last three years, year-wise and variety-wise;

(b) the details of Government agencies that procure pulses from farmers and the

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.