

| Country | Yield (kg/ha) |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Zimbabwe | 432 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 931 |
| United States of America | 1941 |
| China | 1725 |

Source: FAOSTAT, FAO.

(c) The area coverage of crops including pulses and cotton depends on farmers' preferences, agro-climatic conditions, inter-crop profitability, resource availability, market prices, etc.

(d) All India average wholesale prices of pulses broadly exhibit a decline from January, 2017 to November, 2017.

Production of Wheat

†27. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wheat produced in the country in years 2015-16 and 2016-17;

(b) the quantum of wheat imported from April, 2016 to May, 2017 and the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum of import duty levied on imported wheat; and

(d) the total estimated stock of wheat in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The production of wheat in the country during 2015-16 and 2016-17 are 92.29 million tonnes and 98.38 million tonnes (as per 4th Advance Estimates), respectively.

(b) There was no import of wheat for central pool from April, 2016 to May, 2017. However, some private traders were importing wheat. The quantity of wheat imported from April, 2016 to May, 2017 is 5.97 million tonnes.

(c) Presently, import duty levied on wheat is 20%. Import duty on wheat was raised from 'zero' to 10% *vide* Notification dated 28th March, 2017 and from 10% to 20% *vide* Notification dated 8th November, 2017.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) As per Food Corporation of India, the Stock of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1st December, 2017 is 21.66 million tonnes.

Agriculture revolution

28. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has unveiled three year road-map for evergreen revolution in agriculture, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government aims to double the farmers' income by 2022, if so, the steps proposed to be taken up by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) No, Sir. However, implementation of most schemes of this Department has been approved for the period of three years *i.e.* 2017-18 to 2019-20 which is co-terminus with the period of 14th Finance Commission.

(b) Yes, Sir. In order to achieve the target of doubling of income of farmers by the year 2022, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has constituted a Committee to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022, for the following aspects:—

- (i) To study the current income level of farmers/agricultural labourers
- (ii) To measure the historical growth rate of the current income level
- (iii) To determine the needed growth rate to double the income of farmers/agricultural labourers by the year 2021-22
- (iv) To consider and recommend various strategies to be adopted to accomplish (iii) above
- (v) To recommend an institutional mechanism to review and monitor implementation to realise the goal
- (vi) To examine any other related issue.

The Committee is expected to submit its Report soon.

Loss of lives due to toxic pesticides

29. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many farmers in the State of Maharashtra lost their lives due to poisoning after inhaling pesticides recently, if so, the details thereof; and