

**Production of wheat and pulses**

31. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat output projected to be at an all time high of 97.44 million tonnes in the 2016-17 crop year due to good monsoon, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that pulses output has also been revised upward to a record 22.40 MT as against the actual output of 16.35 million tonnes last year; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that with upward revision in wheat and pulses, total foodgrain output now has been pegged at a record 2734.38 MT for 2016-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) As per the Fourth Advance Estimates for 2016-17, the production of wheat is estimated at an all time high of 98.38 million tonnes. The production of wheat during 2016-17 is higher by 2.53 million tonnes than the previous record production of 95.85 million tonnes achieved during 2013-14. The production of pulses is estimated at record level of 22.95 million tonnes in 2016-17 as against the production of 16.35 million tonnes in 2015-16. The total foodgrain production in the country during 2016-17 is estimated at record level of 275.68 million tonnes as against the previous record production of 265.04 million tonnes achieved during 2013-14.

**Selling of Pesticides without labeling of adequate safety information**

32. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers reported to have died due to inhalation of pesticides since 2010, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether private and multinational companies have been selling pesticides without providing adequate safety information regarding potential pesticide poisoning; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Ministry to remedy this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Information is being collected from the States.

(b) and (c) The Registration Committee while granting Certificate of Registration to the applicant also approves labels and leaflets. These labels and leaflets, *inter alia*, provides information on safe usage of the insecticide. It is mandatory for every manufacturer to place these labels and leaflets in the packages of insecticide for sell.

#### **Establishment of NIPER in Chhattisgarh**

†33. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step to establish National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) in Chhattisgarh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any proposal from Government of Chhattisgarh regarding setting up of NIPER, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated to State Government by the Central Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 2015-16, Government announced opening of NIPER at Chhattisgarh. Government of Chhattisgarh has allocated 35 acres of land in New Raipur for setting up the Institute. The possession of the land is yet to be taken by the Government.

(c) So far, no funds have been allocated to the State Government by the Central Government for the purpose.

#### **Production cost of Urea in the country**

34. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that imported urea is cheaper than that produced in the country, if so, the reasons therefor; and

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.