

from Kharif 2018. The number of pattadar farmers to be covered will be 71,76,000 for which estimated budget will be ₹ 11,999 crores.

- (d) In view of (a) and (b), does not arise.

#### **Production of paddy**

1636. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country has produced sufficient foodgrains for its population;
- (b) the production of paddy in the country; and
- (c) the name of State that produces highest amount of paddy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The country has achieved self sufficiency in foodgrain production except in certain years which experienced bad monsoon/adverse climatic conditions/drought etc. As per the Second Advance Estimates for 2017-18, the estimated foodgrain production is 277.49 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) As per the Second Advance Estimates 2017-18, the production of rice is estimated at record 111.01 million tonnes. The State of West Bengal produces the highest amount of paddy in the country.

#### **Agreement with UN for drought-proof Andhra Pradesh**

1637. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has signed any agreement with the United Nations (UN) to make districts in Andhra Pradesh drought-proof;
- (b) if so, the names of districts which have been selected for the project and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of project, including expenditure planned by various bodies over the next few years;
- (d) whether any mechanism has been set up to monitor the progress of the said project; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.