

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:224

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012

INCREASE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Panda Shri Prabodh;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Singh Shri Radha Mohan;Singh Smt. Meena;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy ;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a record increase in the production of cotton, foodgrain, gram, rice, oilseeds, pulses, sugarcane, wheat etc. during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of production of the above commodities during each of the last three years, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to utilise the enhanced production properly and arrangement made for storing the crops in order to avoid wastage; and
- (d) the likely reduction in the prices of foodgrains in view of the bumper production in the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): As per the 2nd advance estimates for 2011-12 released on 03.02.2012, production of rice, wheat, foodgrains and cotton in the country is estimated at all time record level of 102.75 million tonnes, 88.31 million tonnes, 250.42 million tonnes and 34.09 million bales (of 170 kg each) respectively. State-wise and crop-wise details of the production of rice, wheat, gram, pulses, foodgrains, oilseeds, sugarcane and cotton during the last three years and the current year, i.e., 2008-09 to 2011-12 are given in the Annexure.

(c): Due to increased procurement of foodgrains and to reduce storage in Cover and Plinth(CAP), the Government of India has formulated a Scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Assessment of additional storage needs under the scheme is based on the overall procurement/consumption and the storage space already available. Under the scheme, capacity of about 151 lakh tonnes is to be created in 19 States through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations. The Government has also finalized a plan for construction of 5.4 lakh tonnes of storage capacity in the North East.

(d): As the result of record production/procurement, there are ample stocks of rice and wheat in the country. However, the prices of foodgrains are also influenced by the inter-play of factors such as income of consumers, consumption pattern, procurement prices, expectations of stakeholders, weather conditions etc.