

(b) and (c). The country has been able to achieve virtual self-sufficiency in foodgrains production under normal weather conditions. The production of foodgrains has increased from 50.8 million tonnes in 50-51 to 170.25 million in 1988-89.

The farm incomes have also shown considerable increase during the period. The gross domestic product (at 1980-81 prices) from agricultural sector including forestry, logging, fishing etc. increased from Rs. 242 billion in 1950-51 to Rs. 656 billion in 1988-89.

Wheat Production

10340. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been adequate production of wheat in 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) if so, whether any alternative crop, to wheat has been suggested to the farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Wheat production during 1988-89 was 54 million tonnes. During 1989-90 it is likely to be around 53 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). Farmers are being advised /motivated to diversify low productivity wheat areas to other crops particularly, pulses and oilseeds.

Reviewing of agricultural Programme

10341. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government asked State Governments to review Central Agricultural Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b). The review of the progress of the implementation of the schemes has been made by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation regularly in the various meetings and conferences conducted from time to time. The State Governments are requested from time to time to take appropriate steps for speedy and effective implementation of the schemes so as to achieve the target set. Recently, a National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 1990 was conducted on April, 10, 11, and 12 1990, in which State Agriculture Ministers, State Agriculture Secretaries and State Agriculture Production Commissioners participated and the progress of various programmes was reviewed.

Difference in the prices of Indigenous and Imported Fertilizers

10342. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference in the prices of imported and indigenously produced fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for dependence on imports more than on indigenous productions?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) There is no difference in the