

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) to (c) A statement showing the quantity and value of imports of pulses alongwith the countries of their origin for the current financial year (April-September, 1995, being the latest) is attached.

STATEMENT

Imports of pulses from April-September, 1995 Countrywise

(Qty. in M.T. Value in Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Qty.	Value
1.	Australia	37085	3308.21
2.	Bulgaria	1504	133.21
3.	Canada	29359	2474.77
4.	Chinese Taipei	2546	304.79
5.	China P. Rep	9567	1055.91
6.	Egypt	500	38.72
7.	German Rep	40	7.01
8.	Hungry	2600	231.17
9.	Iran	17	1.79
10.	Kenya	231	38.79
11.	Malawi	3680	494.45
12.	Malaysia	4121	680.18
13.	Mayanmar	103278	16095.51
14.	Mexico	1180	371.74
15.	Mozambique	1097	159.64
16.	Netherland	43	5.31
17.	Nepal	3848	647.32
18.	Newzeland	3514	505.35
19.	Pakistan	3000	585.19
20.	Singapore	9425	1440.72
21.	Spain	478	82.26
22.	Syria	424	56.96
23.	Turkey	83	25.99
24.	U.A.E.	3267	318.26
25.	U.K.	52	8.72
26.	U.S.A.	1276	280.40
27.	Others	7	0.01
Total Imports		222222	29352.38

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta.

EDUCATIONAL STANDARD IN KENDRIYA VIDYALAYAS

*124. **Shri Muhl Ram Saikia :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a gradual decline in the results of students of the Kendriya Vidyalayas in CBSE Examination during the preceding three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for raising the educational standard of the Kendriya Vidyalayas?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) : (a) to (b) The results of both X and Class XII examinations of Kendriya Vidyalayas for the past three years have remained substantially the same except during 1995 when a decline was noticed in the class X performance. This is mainly due to a change in the examination pattern prescribeds by CBSE.

(c) Efforts to improve the standard of education in Kendriya Vidyalayas are a continuing process. Specific steps taken include preparation of sample question papers for distribution in Kendriya Vidyalayas. Follow-up action on the report of Committee appointed to review the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in respect of certain measures concerning academics has also been initiated.

SEEDS PRODUCTION SECTOR

*125. **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey :**

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the exact policy regarding foreign equity participation in the Seeds Production Sector;

(b) whether the Government have permitted Seeds Production and seeds multiplication to the wholly foreign owned companies and their subsidiaries engaged in the food processing;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to notify the policy allowing hundred percent foreign equity participation in this sector to bring about transparency; and

(e) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) : (a) The Statement on Industrial Policy 1991 identifies the production of certified high yielding hybrid seeds and synthetic seeds as high priority industries. The salient features of the policy regarding foreign equity participation in this sector are as follows :

- (i) Automatic approval by Reserve Bank of India for all proposals where foreign investment in the equity capital of the Indian Company is upto 51% and where the foreign equity covers the foreign exchange requirements for import of capital goods needed for the projects, subject to stipulations contained in the Manual of Policy and Procedures Governing Industrial Approvals.
- (ii) Proposals for foreign equity participation beyond 51% are considered by the Government on the basis of the merits of the case.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The existing policy contains provisions for consideration of proposals involving 100% foreign equity participation.

SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES FOR P.D.S.

*126. Shri Probin Deka :
Shri Kabindra Purkayastha :

Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) the commodities supplied to the consumers through Public Distribution System in the North-Eastern States, particularly in Assam, Mizoram and Tripura;

(b) whether the Union Government are aware of the fact that irregular and inadequate supply of essential commodities has increased prices of the consumer goods;

(c) if so, the details there of and steps taken by the Government to ensure availability of these items at reasonable prices;

(d) whether there is any demand to add some more items under Public Distribution System; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Central Government arranges to supply rice, wheat, levy sugar, superior kerosene oil (SKD), imported edible oil and soft/CIL coke for the Public Distribution System (PDS) to all States/UTs including the North Eastern States.

(b) and (c) Central Government makes all efforts to maintain regular supply PDS commodities to all States. No State Government has reported increase in prices of consumer goods due to irregular and inadequate supplies of essential commodities. Allocations for the PDS are supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the

entire requirement of any State/UT. Central Government issues PDS commodities at Central Issue prices which are highly subsidised and are below the open market prices.

(d) and (e) State Government have been advised to distribute additional commodities of mass consumption such as tea, iodised salt, pulses and soaps on their own depending on local requirements and consumer preferences. Many State Governments have reported that they are distributing such commodities in the areas covered under the Revamped PDS.

[Translation]

CULTIVATION OF SOYABEAN

*127. Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the States where the cultivation of Soyabean is being undertaken;

(b) the total area of land brought under such cultivation during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the total production of Soyabean during the above period, State-wise;

(d) the Steps being taken by the Government to increase the cultivation of Soyabean; and

(e) the details of the progress made in setting up of Soyabean based industries like "Soya-Milk", "Soya-Cheese", etc.?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) :

(a) The major soyabean growing States are Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat.

(b) and (c) State-wise area and production for the last three years is good in the enclosed Statement.

(d) To increase the cultivation of oilseeds including soyabean, Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 22 states covering 337 districts. Assistance is provided under OPP for production and distribution of seeds, Distribution of sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, Rhizobium culture and PSB, gypsum and pyrites, etc. Further, to propagate the production technology, frontline demonstrations are organised by the ICAR and block demonstrations by the State Departments of Agriculture.

(e) Much progress has not been made in setting up of soyabean based industries like Soya-Milk and Soya - cheese. Some entrepreneurs have started production of soya products on a limited scale. However, 98 soyabean processing industries have been set up with an installed capacity of 70 lakh tonnes per annum.