

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1025
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
SELF SUFFICIENCY IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the agricultural produce in which the country is deficit and are importing;
- (b) the steps taken to achieve self-sufficiency therein during the last three years and the success achieved so far;
- (c) whether the Government propose to make the palm oilseed cultivation remunerative to motivate farmers to take up the new crop;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government propose to review the National Pulses Development Project to increase the production of pulses to check frequent import thereof; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Edible Oils and Pulses are the major agricultural commodities which are being imported because the domestic production is inadequate to meet the demand.

(b): In order to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of Oilseeds and Pulses, the Government are implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) & National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses. In view of recurring drought conditions in some parts of the country, success of steps taken is not discernible from the production figures of last three years. However, substantial increase in yield achieved over the years, especially in oilseeds, reflects the success of the measures cited above.

The production of Oilseeds and Pulses in the country during the years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 is given in the table below:-

(million tonnes)

Crop	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02\$
Oilseeds#	20.71	18.40	20.73
Pulses	13.41	10.67	13.52

Includes Groundnut, Castor seed, Sesamum, Niger seed, Rapeseed & Mustard, Linseed, Safflower, Sunflower, Soyabean.
\$ Fourth Advance Estimates as on 27.6.2002.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): Oil Palm is the highest yielder of edible oil and its cultivation is being promoted in various States for which the potential area of 8.00 lakh hectares has been identified in the country. Various incentives like planting material, cultivation costs, drip irrigation, training, extension & publicity, demonstrations, diesel pump sets, development of waste land etc. are being provided to the farmers to take up the cultivation of Oil Palm on a large scale.

(e)&(f): No, Sir. There is no proposal to review the National Pulses Development Project. However, the thrust areas identified for increasing the production of pulses include development of high yielding varieties/hybrids and drought tolerant varieties of seeds, irrigation facilities, ensuring adequate & timely supply of nutrients, use of sulphur rich chemicals like gypsum/pyrites, timely credit & extension services and providing marketing support to the farmers.

