

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1997
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
PRODUCTION OF KHARIF
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Kharif grain output for the current year is much better than the previous year;
- (b) if so, the comparative figures for the Kharif production during the last three years;
- (c) whether the increased Kharif production will reduce the dependence on imports of some of the Kharif items; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Unlike in last year, there was good rainfall from the South-west monsoon in 2003 which brightened the prospects of foodgrains production. The figures for the Kharif foodgrains production during 2003-04 vis-à-vis last three years are as under:-

(Million Tonnes)

Crops	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Rice	72.78	79.76	66.51	75.05
Coarse Cereals	24.86	26.92	20.13	27.96
Pulses	4.45	4.87	3.84	5.44
Total Foodgrains	102.09	111.55	90.48	108.45

\$ As per 4th Advance Estimates released on 01.7.2003
@ As per 1st Advance Estimates released on 30.09.2003

(c)&(d): As regards foodgrains, there has been no shortage. In fact, the comfortable stock position coupled with high production in 1999-2000 and 2001-02 has led to a decline of 1.2% in Wholesale Price Index (WPI) with base 1993-94 of foodgrains during the last three years 1999-2000 to 2002-03. As regards edible oils, the domestic production of oilseeds is inadequate to meet the needs for ensuring the required production of edible oils in the country. Despite the fact that the production of oilseeds increased from 18.61 million tonnes in 1990-91 to 24.75 million tonnes in 1998-99, the import of edible oils increased from 4.85 lakh tonnes to 26.22 lakh tonnes during the same period. The import of edible oils rose to 42.66 lakh tonnes in 2002-03 which of course reflects the decline in domestic production in subsequent years, especially in 2002-03 due to severe drought. The demand for edible oils is influenced by a number of factors like population growth, per capita income and market prices both at home and abroad. It is therefore difficult to ascertain the time required to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils.