

PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The per capita net availability of pulses in the country for the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Pulses (Kgs per year)
1995	13.9
1996	12.8
1997	13.7

As per the recommended nutritional standards of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the requirement of pulses for low cost balanced diet in respect of a sedentary man is 40 gms. per day which works out to 14.60 Kg. per year. Information on norms regarding minimum requirement of pulses, if any, laid down by FAO is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The demand for pulses depends on various factors such as level of production, incomes, availability of other substitutes, population and food habits, etc. As such, it is difficult to estimate the exact requirement of pulses over a period of time. However, according to the Working Group's Report on Demand and Supply Projections of Agricultural Commodities and Improvement of Agricultural Statistics for the Formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the demand projection for pulses based on GDP growth rate of 7% works out to 16 Kg. for 2001-2002.

Import of pulses is being allowed under OGL. The quantity of pulses imported during the last 3 years are given below:

(Quantity in lakh tonnes)

1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
5.54	4.49	5.32

(d) and (e) The Government has been implementing the National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) in 25 States and Union Territory of A & N Islands. Under this programme, emphasis is laid on increasing the area through multiple and inter-cropping and increasing the yield per unit of area. The production of pulses for 1996-97 has reached a record level of 14.85 million tonnes as compared to 13.19 million tonnes achieved during 1995-

Prices of Anti-Biotic Drugs

1108. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH
GAEKWAD :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of anti-biotics formulations with penicillin have gone beyond the reach of the common-man and all the six producers of penicillin drug have run into deep losses resulting in sickness of these industries;

(b) whether one or two of these units are likely to be shut-down;

(c) if so, the precise situation in which these units are placed; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to revive the penicillin industry?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) A random study of prices of leading formulations based on Ampicillin, Amoxycillin, Cloxacillin and Cephalexin indicates that their prices have remained stable over the last one year. As regards Potassium Penicillin G, which is used as an intermediate for the manufacture of various types of Penicillins and other downstream products, the prices have crashed in the international market as well as in the country due to increased availability. This has had an adverse effect on the Penicillin G manufacturers. However, no report regarding likely shut down has been received by the Government. Penicillin has been retained in the negative list of imports and free import of this drug is not being permitted.

[Translation]

Division of Assets and Functions in Chandigarh

1109. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the division of assets and functions has been made between Chandigarh Administration and the Municipal Corporation after the formation of the Municipal Corporation in Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;