

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:71

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS

Jatiya Dr. Satyanarayan;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding quantity and price of foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds imported during the last two years and in 2007-08 alongwith the names of the countries and the payments made for the said imports;

(b) whether a further shortage of foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds and consequent rise in their prices is expected during the year 2008-09; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure availability of the above items and check their prices during the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b) & (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 71 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 03.03.2008 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): The year-wise details of quantity and price of foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds, imported during the last two years i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and in 2007-08 alongwith the names of the countries and its value, as received from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata, are annexed as Annexure-I, II & III, respectively. Government imported 53.79 lakh tons of wheat in 2006-07 and 18.735 lakh tons in 2007-08 for the Central Pool.

(b)&(c): It is too early to make an assessment of the situation for the whole year 2008-09. However, the Government is keeping a close watch and will take necessary steps, as and when required as was done in 2007-08.