

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3980

ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010

RABI CROP PRODUCTION

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any estimate on Rabi crop production including the drought affected areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including pulses, crop-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether the total production so estimated is sufficient to meet the domestic requirements;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the estimated production is expected to make good the shortfall recently noticed due to drought conditions in the country;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) the steps taken to overcome the overall shortage of foodgrains and pulses;
- (h) the outcome of the initiatives taken to increase the foodgrain production alongwith their impact on the present price of food items; and
- (i) the allocation made under various schemes/programmes to increase the agricultural production for each crop, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) and (b): Yes, Madam. The crop-wise and State-wise details of rabi production including the drought affected areas during 2009-10 (2nd advance estimates) is given in the Annexure-I.

(c) and (d): As per the projections made by the Working Group of Planning Commission for the 11th Five Year Plan and taking into account the initiatives taken by Ministry of Agriculture, during the last two years, i.e., 2007-08 and 2008-09, the production of foodgrains except pulses has been in excess of the projected demand. However, due to deficit rainfall and drought conditions in various parts of the country, the estimated production of pulses and foodgrains during 2009-10 is falling short as compared to projected demand as per the table below:

(Million Tonnes)

Crop 2009-10

	Estimated Production #	Projected Demand
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Pulses	14.74	18.29
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Foodgrains	216.85	224.04
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2nd Advance Estimates

(e) & (f): Details of estimated excess/shortfall in production of foodgrains and pulses during kharif and rabi seasons of 2009-10 as compared to 2008-09 are given below:

Production (Million Tonnes)

Crop 2009-10 2008-09 Difference

Kharif Rabi Total Kharif Rabi Total Kharif Rabi Total

Pulses 4.2 10.5 14.7 4.7 9.9 14.6 -0.5 0.6 0.2

Food- grains 99.9 117.0 216.9 118.1 116.3 234.5 -18.3 0.7 -17.6

(g): Despite decline in production of foodgrains, the position of stocks of rice and wheat in the Central Pool is comfortable. In Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2008-09 and 2009-10, there has been record procurement of 226.89 lakh tonnes and 253.82 lakh tonnes of wheat in the country. Similarly, there has also been record procurement of 287.36 lakh tonnes and 336.84 lakh tonnes of rice during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2007- 08 and 2008-09 respectively. With considerably higher procurement of wheat and rice during the last two years and estimated procurement of about 260 lakh tonnes of rice in the current year i.e. 2009-10, the stocks of rice and wheat in the Central Pool are sufficient to meet the requirement of TPDS and other welfare schemes. There is shortage of production of pulses in the country as compared to their demand. The gap between demand and supply of pulses is therefore met by import of pulses from different countries depending upon their availability.

(h): As a result of various measures taken by the Government to increase the production of foodgrains and reduce the impact of price rise, the retail prices of rice, wheat, groundnut oil, vanaspati had either remained stable or declined while the prices of Sugar, pulses such as Gram dal, Turdal , Urad dal, edible oil such as Mustard oil, Potato, Onion had declined in 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkatta and Chennai over the last 3 months.

(i): State-wise allocation of funds under various schemes of the Department during 2009-10 is given in the Annexure-II.