

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:236
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2010
DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF PULSES
Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh;Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the average annual increase in the demand, supply and price of pulses in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the total quantum and price of pulses imported/exported during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the impact of import of pulses on its prices in the domestic market?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.236 FOR 10.08.2010 REGARDING DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF PULSES.

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. Government had assessed the average annual increase in the demand, supply and price of pulses in the country. Domestic production of pulses has been around 14 -14.8 million tonnes during the last three years. The Working Group of XI th Five Year Plan of the Planning Commission has estimated that the demand for pulses was around 17- 18 MTs during the same period. The details of the average annual increase in the demand, supply and price of pulses in the country is given in Annexure I.

(c) : The total quantity and value of pulses imported/exported as per the DGCIS data is given in the table below:

Table showing quantity and value of pulses imported and quantity and value of pulses exported during the last three years.

| Year | (Qty in million tonnes) (Value: in Crores) | | | |
|---------|---|-------|----------------|-------|
| | Total Imports# | | Total exports# | |
| | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value |
| 2007-08 | 2.84 | 5374 | 0.16 | 526 |
| 2008-09 | 2.48 | 6246 | 0.14 | 540 |
| 2009-10 | 3.50 (prov.) | 9813 | 0.10 | 407 |

Source: #DGCIS.

(d): India is the largest producer of pulses in the world, but is not self- sufficient in pulses. About 12-15% of the total pulses requirements are imported. India has been a net importer of pulses due to a mismatch between domestic supply and demand for pulses. The gap between demand and supply is filled by import of variety of pulses from different countries depending upon their availability. International prices of pulses surged during the last two years consequently impacting domestic prices also. International prices of pulses over the last two years are given in the Annexure II.