

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:50

ANSWERED ON:22.02.2011

PRODUCTION OF PULSES

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total production of pulses in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether despite the rise in area under pulses there is still a huge gap between demand and supply of pulses in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to bridge this gap?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV)

(a): State-wise details of production of pulses during the last three years and the current year i.e. 2007-08 to 2010-11 are given in the Annexure.

(b) & (c): During 2004-05 onwards upto 2009-10, the area coverage under pulses in the country has been in the range of around 22 to 24 million hectares. However, during 2010-11, the area under pulses has increased to 25.51 million hectares (2nd Advance Estimates) and if weather conditions remain favourable, the production of pulses is likely to reach a record level of 16.51 million tonnes. As per Working Group of Planning Commission constituted for 11th Five Year Plan and taking into account the initiatives taken by the Government for increasing agricultural production, the projected demand and estimated production of pulses in the country along with the gap/deficit in production during 2007-08 to 2010-11 are give in the table below:-

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Estimated Production	Estimated Demand	Gap/Deficit
2007-08	14.76	16.77	2.01
2008-09	14.57	17.51	2.94
2009-10	14.66	18.29	3.63
2010-11	16.51#	19.08	2.57

# 2nd Advance Estimates released on 09-02-2011.

Production and productivity of pulses has remained low due to its cultivation on marginal land under rain-fed conditions, low area coverage due to risk of pests and diseases and higher profitability of other competing crops, etc. The gap between demand and supply of pulses is met through imports.

(d): Production and productivity of pulses in the country is being promoted through crop development schemes such as National Food Security Mission-Pulses, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Macro Management Mode of Agriculture, new initiatives of promoting production of pulses through 60,000 pulses & oilseeds villages and starting Green Revolution in Eastern India. Recently, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has been strengthened with enhanced scope for more intensive promotion of pulses crops. Pulses component of the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) has been merged with NFSM and all the districts in the ISOPOM/NFSM States are now covered under NFSM-Pulses. In addition, 15 districts of Jharkhand and 10 districts of Assam have also been included under NFSM-Pulses based on their potential for pulses development. Besides, a new initiative viz. Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) has also been launched as part of NFSM-Pulses from 2010-11. Under A3P, one million hectare of potential pulses areas for the major pulse crops viz. tur, urad, moong, gram and lentil have been taken up for large scale demonstration of technology in compact blocks. Further, in order to incentivise farmers for cultivation of pulses, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of pulses for 2010-11 has been substantially increased.