

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:448
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009
CULTIVATION OF PULSES AND OILSEEDS
Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the area under pulses and oilseeds cultivation has declined and the same has been diverted for other crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to include issues pertaining to the improvement in research on pulses and evolving better seeds and cropping methods and techniques under the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and the National Food Security Mission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government would consider to promote research and distribution of high-yielding hybrid variety of seeds for pulses and oilseeds as a long term measure to attain self sufficiency; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 448 DUE FOR REPLY ON 04-08-2009.

(a) & (b): The details of area under pulses and oilseeds at all India level during the last three years and the current year i.e. 2005-06 to 2008-09 is given in the table below:

(Million hectares)

Year	Area Coverage	
	Pulses	Oilseeds
2005-06	22.39	27.86
2006-07	23.19	26.51
2007-08	23.63	26.69
2008-09	22.37	27.46

(c) to (f): Under the Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)" being implemented w.e.f. 1.4.2004 in 14 major Oilseeds & Pulses and 15 maize growing States, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training, publicity, etc. In order to

disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management(IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations and production of breeder seed through Indian Council of Agricultural Research(ICAR).

Under ISOPOM, assistance is also given to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/ International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) for undertaking contract research project on pulses and oilseeds. Under this programme, the support is given for development of drought resistant varieties of pulses and oilseeds, particularly of groundnut, soyabean, rapeseed and mustard. Further, assistance is also provided for distribution of certified seeds to the farmers @ 50% of the cost limited to Rs.1200/- per quintal, besides distribution of seed minikit of pulses, oilseeds & maize to the farmers free of cost in Kharif, rabi and summer season every year.

Based on the experience gained in the implementation of ISOPOM during Xth Plan, following modifications have already been made in the scheme for Xth Plan period in respect of norms and pattern of assistance, inclusion of new components etc:-

To increase the Seed Replacement Rate (SRR), the assistance on Production of Foundation and Certified Seed has been enhanced from Rs.500/- per qtl to Rs.1000/- per qtl. Similarly, the subsidy on Distribution of Certified Seed has been enhanced from Rs.800/- qtl to Rs.1200/- per qtl.

The Private Sector seed producing agencies have been involved in the distribution of Certified Seeds of Oilseeds besides National Seed Corporation (NSC), State Farms Corporation of India Limited (SFCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and Indian Farmers Fertilizers Corporation (IFFCO).

To transfer the technology, the assistance on block demonstration and Frontline Demonstrations of Polythene Mulch Technology in groundnut has been enhanced/ rationalized.

To increase irrigated area under Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize Production Programme, the assistance on sprinkler set, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming, cultures and pipes for carrying water has been enhanced/rationalized.

A new component of supply of micro nutrient and improved farm implements has also been included.

To create infrastructure for production and storage of seeds of oilseeds, pulses and maize, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/ Kisan Vikas Kendras (KVKs) and Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR), Kanpur have been included under ISOPOM.

The interventions covered under National Food Security Mission (NFSM-Pulses) includes assistance in the form of production & purchase of breeder seeds; production of foundation & certified seeds; distribution of certified seeds; strengthening of seed certification agencies; Integrated Nutrient Management (INM); Integrated Pest Management (IPM); sprinklers sets; zero till seed drills; multi-crop planters; seed drills; motivators; sprinkler sets; knap sack sprayers; diesel pump sets; farmers field schools; training for extension workers; award for best performing districts; local initiatives; strengthening of infrastructure of IIPR, Kanpur; pilot project on blue bull; demonstration of ICRISAT technologies and project management team. The districts covered under NFSM-Pulses aim to increase area by inter-cropping and coverage of rice fallows to an extent of 4 million hectares. It has been targeted that an additional quantity of 2 million tones of pulses shall be produced by the end of 11th Plan through such measures in the National Food Security Mission.