

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3216

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009

PRODUCTION OF PULSES

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of increase in prices of pulses and continuous decrease in the production thereof;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to increase the production of pulses; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the production of pulses is likely to be increased as a result of introduction of the said scheme?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per the Wholesale Price Index (Base year 1993-94=100) released by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the overall prices of pulses for the week ending 11-07-2009 were higher by 15.91% as compared to the last year.

The estimated production of pulses in the country has been increasing since 2004-05. As compared to the production of 14.20 million tones during 2006-07, the production of pulses during 2007-08 was estimated at 14.76 million tones. However, as per 4th Advance Estimates released on 21-07-2009, the production of pulses during 2008-09 is estimated at 14.66 million tones which is slightly lower as compared to the production during the previous year.

(c) & (d): In order to increase production and productivity of pulses, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored 'Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)' in 14 major pulses growing States since 01-04-2004.

Besides ISOPOM, the Government has launched following schemes to encourage cultivation of pulses:-

(i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) – Pulses launched in 2007-08 is being implemented in 171 identified districts of 14 major pulses growing States. The objective of NFSM-Pulses is to increase production of pulses in the country by 2 million tones by the end of 11th Plan i.e. 2011-12.

(ii) Macro-Management of Agriculture (MMA) scheme (Revised) provides assistance for pulses development to the States not covered under the ISOPOM.

(iii) The States can undertake pulses development programme under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) launched during 2007.