

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:59

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011

AVAILABILITY OF PULSES

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

- (a) whether the availability of pulses in the country during 2010-11 has improved in comparison to the previous year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total availability of pulses in the country during the said period alongwith the benefits accruing to the consumers therefrom;
- (c) the share of imported and domestically produced pulses therein; and
- (d) the gap in the demand and supply of pulses during the said period?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

- (a): Yes Madam, availability of pulses in the country during 2010-11 has improved in comparison to the previous year.
- (b): Domestic availability of pulses is arrived at the sum of domestic production plus imports minus exports. Currently exports of pulses are banned except in case of (i) Kabuli Chana, and (ii) organic pulses upto 10,000 tonnes. Domestic availability of pulses in 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Availability of Pulses (in Million Tonnes)

	Domestic Production	Imports	Exports	Domestic Availability
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2009-10	14.66	3.51	0.09	18.08
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2010-11	18.09	2.69	0.20	20.59
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Source: for production - Department of Agriculture

Major benefit that accrued to the consumers has been in terms of reduction in prices pulses. The inflation rate in pulses drastically declined in 2010-11 as compared to 10 (Table 2)

Table 2: Inflation Rates for Pulses# Based on Wholesale Price Index

2009-10	2010-11
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Arhar	48.81 -4.49
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Moong 55.43 19.95

Urad 42.97 18.96

Gram -1.06 -1.44

Masur 16.31 -14.77

ALL 22.41 3.20
PULSES

Calculated on the basis of WPI reported by Dept. of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Govt. of India.

(c): Of the total domestically available pulses, the shares of imported and domestically produced pulses (in percentage) are as given below:

	Share of Imported pulses	Share of Domestically Produced pulses
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2009-10	19.32	80.68
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2010-11	12.95	87.05
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(d): Year-wise demand for pulses was projected by the Working Group on `Crop Husbandry, Agricultural Inputs, Demand and Supply Projections and Agricultural Statistics` constituted by the Planning Commission for the Eleventh Plan (2007-2012). Based on the above said projection of demand for pulses and availability of pulses as reported in Table 1 above, the demand-supply gap is as below:

Table 4: Gap in the Demand and Supply of Pulses (in Million Tonnes)

Years	Availability of Pulses	Demand for Pulses	Gap
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2009-10	18.08	18.29	-0.21 (Deficit)
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2010-11	20.59	19.08	1.59 (Surplus)
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