

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:978
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012
FALL IN PULSES PRODUCTION
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of pulses is falling day by day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the pulse production?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): The production of total pulses has increased from 14.20 million tonnes during 2006-07 to 18.24 million tonnes during 2010-11 which is 4.03 million tonnes higher as compared to 2006-07(last year of 10th plan period) recording a continuous increase in production in 11th Five year Plan.

In order to enhance the production and productivity of pulses in the country, National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses) is being implemented since 2007-08. Presently, NFSM-Pulses is under implementation in 468 districts of 16 States. Under the programme, assistance is being provided for seed production, seed distribution, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Herbicides, Improved farm implements, assistance for increased water use efficiency through distribution of sprinklers, pipeline for carrying water to the fields and pumpsets etc. Besides, training of farmers and extension workers are also organised for transfer of latest production technology.

In addition, to demonstrate the production and protection technology of pulses among the farmers on their fields through compact area approach, Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) is implemented in the country with 1000 units (one unit of 1000 ha each) covering one million hectare area of pulses during 2010-11 and 2011-12.

Further, a programme of Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses Villages in Rainfed Areas is also being implemented in 11 major pulses growing States in the country to provide support for in-situ moisture conservation, accelerated pulses production programme with inclusion of mini kits & pests surveillance and market linked extension support through Small Farmers Agriculture Consortium (SFAC) for framework of Farmers Producer Groups(FPOs) & extending end to end support to the farmers for ensuring better economic return to the farmers. The Government has also increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for kharif and rabi pulses. These incentives will help the farmers to adopt modern techniques for increasing pulse production at farm level.