

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2251

ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012

FOODGRAINS PRODUCTION

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

(a) whether India, being the second most populous country in the world and is likely to overtake the population of China by 2040, is increasingly finding it difficult to feed the surging population;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the increase in petroleum prices in the world has also created inflationary conditions of food prices; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the challenges and increase the foodgrains production in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a) & (b): India is presently meeting its food requirements mostly through domestic production. It is a net exporter of foodgrains.

(c): Yes, Madam. Persistently high crude petroleum prices during the last two years also created inflationary conditions in food prices as crude petroleum is a major input for the fertilizer industry and the transport sector which have their impact on the food prices through cost push factors.

(d): There has been a record production of foodgrains during the current year at 250.42 million tones comprising of 102.75 million tones of rice, 88.31 million tones of wheat, 42.08 million tones of coarse cereals and 17.28 million tones of pulses. However, with a view to increase the production and productivity of foodgrains and other crops such as oilseeds, fruits and vegetables on a sustainable basis, a number of crop development schemes and programmes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize (ISOPOM) are being implemented through the State Governments. Besides the above schemes, two new initiatives, viz 'Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India' (BGREI) and Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses and Oilseeds Villages in Rainfed Areas have been initiated under RKVY since 2010-11.