

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:660
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
PRICE SUPPORT FOR PULSES AND OILSEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge gap between the current production and demand of pulses and oilseeds in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the area under these crops in the XIth Five Year Plan;
- (d) whether the Government has also launched a scheme to purchase pulses and oilseeds through the Central agencies under the Price Support Scheme (PSS);
- (e) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the farmers get adequate support price for pulses and oilseeds?

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. 660 DUE FOR REPLY ON 22ND MAY, 2012.

(a) & (b): Details of Projected Demand (As per the Report of the Working Group of Planning Commission for the 11th Five Year Plan) and Estimated Production of pulses and oilseeds in the terminal year of the Eleventh Plan is as under :-

(Million Tonnes)

Year Pulses Oilseeds

Projected Demand Estimated Production Shortfall/ Gap Projected Demand Estimated Production Shortfall/ Gap

2011-12 19.91 17.02# 2.89 53.39 30.06# 23.33

3rd Advance Estimates for 2011-12 released on 23.04.2012.

(c): In order to increase production of major crops including pulses and oilseeds in the country through area expansion and enhancement in productivity, Government of India has been implementing several crop development schemes/programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM), etc. National Food Security Mission has been strengthened from 1.4.2010 with the merger of pulses component of ISOPOM and inclusion of two new potential States namely; Assam and Jharkhand for pulses production. In addition to above schemes, a new programme "Accelerated Pulse Production Programme (A3P)" in the form of block demonstrations has been started under NFSM since 2010-11 to take up the active propagation of key technologies for improving productivity of pulses.

(d) to (f): Under agricultural price policy, the Government every year fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSP) with a view to ensure that oilseed and pulses growers get remunerative prices for their produce. Ministry of Agriculture is implementing Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oilseeds, pulses and cotton through NAFED, as central agency. NAFED undertakes the procurement of oilseeds, pulses and cotton as and when prices fall below the Minimum Support Price (MSP). Since October, 2010, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and National Consumer Cooperative Federation have been appointed as central agencies for procurement of oilseeds and pulses under PSS, in addition to NAFED. However, farmers are free to sell their produce in the market if the prices rule above the MSP.