

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1522

ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012

PRODUCTION OF PULSES

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

- (a) whether the cultivation of pulses crop is suitable for rainfed areas as it needs little irrigation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has launched a special programme to achieve higher rate of pulses production and increase in crop area by promoting intercropping during the current Kharif season;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the provision of financial and technical assistance thereunder; and
- (e) the details of subsidy given to farmers on pulses seeds for encouraging cultivation of pulses during each of the last three years and the current year?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The water requirement of different short duration pulses is less (22-25 cm) except long duration Pigeonpea (30-50 cm) as compared to other crops such as Rice (95-100 cm), Wheat (25-40 cm for North India and 50-60 cm for Central India), Maize (40-45 cm), Cotton (60-75 cm), Groundnut (60-65) and Sugarcane (>200cm) etc. More than 87% areas of Pulses are rainfed in the major pulse growing states of the country such as Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

(c) to (e): Government of India has launched a Special Plan to achieve 19 + Million Tonnes of Pulses production during Kharif, 2012 in 16 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal with an allocation of Rs.15354.00 lakhs comprising Rs.10730.00 lakhs for activities to be undertaken under NFSM and Rs.4624.00 lakhs for activities to be undertaken within National Mission on Micro Irrigation Scheme. The Plan basically envisages utilization of new areas through intercropping, improving planting techniques and irrigation use efficiency for inclusive water management and use of important critical but low cost inputs like sulphur and weedicides and productivity boosters. Besides, the Special regular programmes under NFSM-Pulses are promoted to farmers with incentives to use better quality of seeds and adoptions of recommended crop management practices. Details of subsidy given to farmers on seeds of pulses under NFSM-Pulses for the past three years and the allocation for the current year are given below:

Year    Subsidy/Expenditure  
      (Rs. in crores)

|          |        |
|----------|--------|
| 2009-10  | 74.92  |
| 2010-11  | 65.60  |
| 2011-12  | 74.35  |
| 2012-13# | 105.49 |

# Allocation