GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:758
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
PRODUCTION OF WHEAT AND PULSES
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Kaswan Shri Ram Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of wheat and pulses has declined in the country in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether reliance on imported foodgrains including wheat and pulses has increased during this period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/being taken to lessen the reliance on imported agricultural produces and to increase their production in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): State-wise details of production of wheat and pulses during the last three years, i.e., 2009-10 to 2011-12 are given in the Annexure.

The production of wheat in the country has increased significantly from 80.80 million tonnes in 2009-10 to 93.90 million tonnes in 2011-12. During the above period, production of pulses has also increased from 14.66 million tonnes to 17.21 million tonnes.

(c) & (d): Details of import of major foodgrains such as rice, wheat coarse cereals and pulses during 2009-10 to 2011-12 are given below:

Year Quantity imported (Thousand tonnes) 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12

Rice 0.07 0.22 1.06 Wheat 164.38 185.28 0.02 Coarse Cereals 33.69 30.68 15.36 Pulses 3509.58 2698.66 3364.80

It is observed that import of wheat, coarse cereals and pulses during 2011-12 has been lower than their import during 2009-10.

(e): in order to increase production of agricultural produces including wheat and pulses and minimize reliance on their imports, Government 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. In addition, a new programme "Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P)" has been started under NFSM since 2010-11 to take up active propagation of key technologies in the form of block demonstrations for improving productivity of pulses. Further, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) also undertakes research programmes related to crop improvement, crop production, crop protection, post harvest operations, value addition, etc.