

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:255
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012
PRODUCTION OF PULSES AND OILSEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether our country is lagging behind in the production of oilseeds, pulses and other major crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has launched any programme to increase the production and productivity of these crops and to make the country self-reliant;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated, released and utilised under the programme during each of the last three years and the current year, Statewise; and
- (e) the other measures taken/being taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 255 DUE FOR REPLY ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2012.

(a) & (b): Whereas the production of major food crops like Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals is higher than their projected demand, the production of Pulses and Oilseeds is lower than their projected demand, as per details given below: (In Million Tonnes)

Crop	Projected Demand during XI Plan (Average of 5 years, i.e., 2007-08 to 2011-12)	Normal production in XI Plan (Average of 5 years, i.e., 2007-08 to 2011-12)	Gap (3-2)	Proportion of gap to demand (%)
Pulses	18.31	15.89	-2.42	-13.21
Oilseeds	49.39	28.97	-20.42	-41.34
Rice	94.84	97.05	2.21	2.33
Wheat	74.27	84.16	9.89	13.32
Coarse- Cereals	36.66	39.95	3.29	8.97

As per Working Group of Planning Commission; Production Estimates of DES, DAC, GOI

The production and productivity of pulses and oilseeds in the country is low, since these crops are mainly grown on marginal lands in the rainfed areas of the country by small and marginal farmers. The major limiting factors causing low productivity of pulses and oilseeds are low genetic base of these crops, higher vulnerability to biotic and abiotic stresses, low adoption of technology by farmers and inadequate marketing support.

(c) to (e): In order to increase production and productivity of food crops and oilseeds, crop specific development schemes are being implemented to enhance the productivity and production of foodgrains. Some of these major schemes include National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). New initiatives for pulses and oilseeds include strengthening of NFSM-pulses, Accelerated Pulses Production Programme

(A3P), Special Programme on Oil Palm Area Expansion (OPAE) and Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses and Oilseeds

Villages in Rainfed Areas.

State-wise details of funds allocated, released and expenditure reported under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses Villages in Rainfed areas; Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM), Special programme on Oil Palm Area Expansion (OPAE), during the last three years and current year are at Annexure-I to IV.

In addition, Government has substantially increased Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of Pulses and Oilseeds, ranging from about 70% to about 165% over the last five years.

As a result of these initiatives and policy measures, the production of pulses increased from 14.76 million tonnes in 2007-08 to 17.21 million tonnes in 2011-12. Similarly, the production of oilseeds increased from 29.76 million tonnes in 2007-08 to 30.01 million tonnes in 2011-12.