

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1834
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009
POLICY FOR SOYABEAN FARMERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the soyabean growing farmers are presently getting lower prices for their produce compared to the prices paid in 2007-08;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons therefore alongwith the comparative prices thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to benefit the farmers growing soyabean and dollar gram; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) (Base Year 1993-94=100) for Soyabean showed a mixed trend during the period 2007 to 2009 (October 2009). The statement showing trends in the Monthly WPI of Soyabean over the last three years is given below.

Monthly WPI for Soyabean from 2007.

Months 2007 2008 2009

January 153.8 214.5 225.9

February 159.8 217.6 238.3

March 160.1 229.1 244.1

April 173.1 223.5 248.1

May 174.0 225.3 288.2

June 172.9 236.1 286.7

July 175.8 246.5 260.4

August 169.8 230.3 252.3

September 172.1 231.6 248.6

October 174.2 217.4 247.4

November 186.7 240.4

Production of Soyabean has shown a decreasing trend during the period 2007-08 to 2009-10

Production of Soyabean (lakh tonnes)

2007-08 2008-09 2009-10

109.68 99.01 89.30
(4th adv. estimates) (1st adv. estimates)

The fluctuations in the WPI of Soyabean may be attributed to domestic production levels, demand-supply factors etc.

(c) & (d): The Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for both black and yellow variety of Soyabean, which ensures that if market price falls below this MSP, the farmers can sell Soyabean to the designated agencies at the Minimum Support Price. For 2008-09, MSP for black variety of Soyabean has been fixed at Rs. 1350/- per quintal which is an increase of Rs. 440/- over the MSP of Rs. 910/- per quintal fixed for 2007-08. Similarly, for the yellow variety of Soyabean MSP has been fixed at Rs. 1390/- per quintal for 2008-09 which is higher by Rs. 340/- than the MSP of Rs. 1050/- per quintal fixed for 2007-08. The MSP for Soyabean (Black and Yellow varieties) has been kept at the same level for 2009-10. For Gram, MSP has been fixed at Rs. 1730/- per quintal for 2008-09 which is higher by Rs. 130/- than the MSP of Rs. 1600/- per quintal fixed for 2007-08. The MSP for Gram for 2009-10 has been raised to Rs.1760/- per quintal.

A Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) provides financial assistance for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits etc. to encourage farmers to grow pulses and oilseeds on a large scale. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Departments of Agriculture and Frontline Demonstrations through ICAR. Consequent upon setting up of Technology Mission on Oilseeds, a major breakthrough in increasing oilseeds production was achieved through an integrated approach by introducing new crop technologies, better supply of inputs and extension services support for marketing and post harvest technologies.