

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2754

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015

Price Cycle of Pulses

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**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a study by CRISIL has shown that spurt in the prices of pulses is cyclical due to rising demand and supply constraints, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the Government has analysed the reasons for steep hike in prices of pulses during the current year, if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has worked out any action plan to remove supply constraints and encourage people to explore alternative sources of protein and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER FOR  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. According to the study by SRISIL, data for the last decade shows a clear pattern of spikes in pulses inflation every third year, which appeared as cycles during 2006-07, 2009-10 and 2012-13 respectively.

During the current year, prices of pulses increased mainly on account of decline in production from 19.25 million tonnes in 2013-14 to 17.20 million tonnes in 2014-15 because of adverse weather conditions. In addition, factors like fall in acreage, hoarding and black-marketing also contributed to the price rise during this year.

(c) & (d) : To remove supply constraints and improve production, Government is implementing a number of plan schemes/programmes like National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) and Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM), Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P), etc. In addition, Government is also regularly enhancing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of pulses. As an alternative source of protein, Government is implementing various schemes for animal husbandry, dairy development, fisheries, and poultry.

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