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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3520 ANSWERED ON:08.08.2017 Import of Yellow Peas Patole Shri Nanabhau Falgunrao

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that about 15 lakh tonnes of yellow peas have been imported to India during the last three months of the year 2016:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the data of yellow peas so imported during the same period of the year 2015;
- (c) whether the imported yellow peas which costs Rs. 25 per kilogram has contained the price-rise of pulses in the country but the profiteers/stakeholders are mixing these this yellow peas with Arhar pulse to make besan and selling it at the rate of Rs.100 per kilogram;
- (d) whether the Government is likely to take cognizance of mixing yellow peas with Arhar pulses and take action against the erring persons and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the pulses of all the varieties imported during the last three months of the year 2016?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) & (b): As per data available in Food Import Clearance System (FICS) of Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), during the last three months of 2016 (October to December), India imported 7.01 lakh tonnes of yellow peas and 4.50 lakh tonnes during the same period in 2015.
- (c) & (d): The fall in prices of pulses over the year is mainly on account of bumper domestic production of 22.40 million tonnes during 2016-17 as compared to 16.35 million tonnes in 2015-16 and various measures taken by the Government including creation of buffer stock of pulses, export ban with some exceptions and zero import duty with the exception of 10% duty on Tur.

As per the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, use of yellow peas in making of besan is not permitted. To curb any kind of adulteration in food products, regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products are being done by the Food Safety Departments of States/UTs under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. Separate data with respect to enforcement activities vis-Ã -vis pulses is not maintained.

(e): As per data available in Food Import Clearance System (FICS) of Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), India imported 13.21 lakh tonnes of pulses during the last three months of 2016. Variety-wise details are as below:-

Product Qty. in tonnes Product Qty.in tonnes
Yellow Peas 701103.08 Tur Whole 241909.21
Red Lentils 197755.65 Chick Peas 85438.58
Black Mapte 54266.86 Black Eye Beans 11536.23
Tur dal 9157.04 Cow Peas 7990.49
Kidney Bean 7811.06 Faba Beans 4337.19
Leema Beans 46.00
Source:- Food Safety & Standards Authority of India, M/o Health & Family Welfare