

(ii) Under various self financing schemes the number of applicants

in the waiting list is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of registrants awaiting allotment</i>
1982 scheme	7,154
1985 scheme	14,481
Total:	21,635

(d) The backlog of 79,083 registrants referred to in reply to part 'c' above, is expected to be cleared by the end of 8th Five Year Plan.

(e) The allotment of flats under the New Pattern Scheme, 1979 is made from time to time as per the priority list. The allocation of flats under the self financing scheme is made through draw of lots for every separate release of flats, keeping in view the seniority of the eligible registrants in each scheme and on the basis of choice of locality indicated by the registrants in the application form for allocation of self financing flats.

Prices of Pulses

*71. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite substantial increase in import of pulses by the Government, there is no significant relief to the consumers;

(b) if so, whether prices of pulses continue to be prohibitive;

(c) the remedial steps being considered by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether dal and grain merchants

associations in Delhi have agreed to reduce the price of pulses by 10-15 per cent immediately; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the prices of pulses have been actually reduced?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) to (c). The Wholesale Price Index (W.P.I.) of pulses rose by 22.1% between 3.2.1990 and 2.2.1991. The increase in price between last week of November, 1990 and first week of February, 1991 is 1.2%. The increase is essentially attributable to the gap between demand and supply. Although imports are being allowed on open General Licence basis to augment availability, such imports are, by their very nature, small and cannot cover the gap. The custom duty on pulses was also reduced from the earlier level of 35% to 10% with effect from 1.11.1989 to encourage imports. Several measures have been taken to increase the production of pulses in the country and these are detailed in the statement below.

(d) and (e). According to the information received from the Delhi Administration, during August/September, 1990, the Dal and Grain Merchants Associations had agreed to sell pulses directly to consumers, at 10% less than the prevailing market prices. This was a temporary arrangement.

STATEMENT

To increase the production of pulses following strategy has been adopted:-

- (i) Introduction of pulses crops in irrigated farming system and encouraging double and multiple cropping;
- (ii) Bringing additional area under pulses crop under:-
 - (a) In summer pulses with irrigation after mustard, sugarcane, potato and wheat; and under lentil in Rabi season.
 - (b) Under short duration arhar in rotation with wheat in Northern States.
 - (c) Short duration varieties of urad, moong etc. in rice fallows by utilising the residual moisture in Rabi Season.
- (iii) Inter-cropping of arhar in soyabean, bajra, cotton, sugarcane and groundnut both under irrigated and unirrigated conditions;
- (iv) Increased use of inputs like improved seeds, adoption of plant protection measures; use of phosphatic fertilisers and rhizobium culture;

The above strategy is supported by the two programmes:-

- (i) Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Programme (N.P.D.P.). The N.P.D.P. is in operation from 1986-87.
- (ii) Central Sector Programmes under Special Food Grains Production Programme covering:-
 - (a) Plan Protection Umbrella on Gram

and Arhar against Pod Borer, Cut Worm and Termites.

(b) Expansion of Area under Summer Moong/Urad.

Non-availability of rationed articles

*72. SHRI JAG PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of non-availability of rationed articles in fair price shops in the Capital;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to ensure availability of foodstuffs in fair price shops; and

(c) the action, the Government proposed to take against the EPS owners who indulge in hoarding and black marketing of rationed items?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) and (b). Adequate stocks of rationed articles are available at fair price shops in the capital.

(c) The Delhi Administration is monitoring availability of rationed items in fair price shops on a day to day basis. Enforcement measures have been further stepped up to prevent black-marketing by FPS owners. In the months of January and February (upto 20.2.1991) already 281 FPS have been checked booking 17 cases against FPS owners for indulging in mal-practices.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Persons of Turkman Gate, Delhi

*73. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: