

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 505
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH JUNE, 2019

INCREASE IN PRODUCTION OF PULSES

505. SHRIMATI RAMYA HARIDAS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the soaring prices of pulses during the last three years has resulted in the increase of acreage on the back of incentivized higher Minimum Support Price (MSP) with technical intervention to ensure higher domestic production and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there was any understanding between the Government and the farmers who were switching over to the production of pulses to boost the yield to meet the domestic needs and also to take care of the excess production, if any; and

(c) if so, whether any effort has been made by the farmers' consortium to restrict the import of pulses from abroad and if so, the action taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The sowing choices of farmers depend on weather conditions, rainfall situation, irrigation facilities, inter-crop profitability, soil conditions, expectation of better remuneration from other competing crops etc. However, Government has taken several measures to increase the area coverage and productivity of pulses. Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of pulses has been substantially increased to encourage pulses production. Government is implementing National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses) in 638 districts of 29 States of the country. Under this programme, Government has taken various steps / initiatives to encourage production of pulses in the country as under:

- Breeder Seed production of pulses was introduced under NFSM-Pulses programme.
- 150 Seed Hubs are implemented for increasing certified seeds of indigenous production of pulses in India through the Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR), Kanpur and its centres.
- Supplying of Seed Minikits of pulses not older than 10 years on free of the cost (100% share) to the farmers.
- In addition to State Governments, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) / Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) / State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) are also involved in conducting the demonstrations on improved latest package of practices of pulses.

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- 15% allocation is earmarked for pulses under NFSM for production of quality seeds through State Governments.
- Formation of 145 Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) through Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) in 11 states of the country.

Depending on domestic price and availability position, Government takes necessary steps from time to time to restrict cheap import of pulses. In this regard, measures taken by Government to restrict import on pulses over the past years are placed at **Annexure**.

**Annexure referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 505 due for
reply on 25.06.2019**

Measures taken by Government to restrict import on pulses over the past years

Sl No	Measure description																				
1	Import duty on toor has been raised from zero to 10% w.e.f. 28.3.2017																				
2	Quantitative restrictions of 2 lakh tons per year on import of toor (pigeon pea) w.e.f. 5.8.2017																				
3	Quantitative restrictions of 3 lakh tons on urad & moong per year w.e.f. 21.08.2017 have been imposed.																				
4	Import duty on peas has been raised from 0% to 50% w.e.f. 8.11.2017																				
5	Import duty on lentil (masur) and chana (gram) has been raised from zero to 30% w.e.f. 21.12.2017																				
6	Import duty on chickpeas (gram) raised from 40% to 60% on 01 st March, 2018																				
7	DGFT has notified import policy/policy condition of Pigeon Peas (Cajanus cajan) / Toor Dal, Urad dal, Moong dal and Peas (including Yellow peas, Green peas, Dun peas and Kaspas peas). Details of quantity to be allowed to be imported during fiscal year 2019-20 are as under: - <table border="1" data-bbox="316 943 1321 1711"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sl. No.</th> <th>Item Description/ITC HS Code</th> <th>Quantity to be allowed</th> <th>Notification Number/Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Peas (including Yellow peas, Green peas, Dun peas and Kaspas peas) under EXIM Codes: 07131000, 07139010 and 07139090</td> <td>1.5 Lakh MT</td> <td>S.O. 1479(E) dated 29.03.2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Moong Dal under EXIM Codes: 07133110, 07139010 and 07139090</td> <td>1.5 Lakh MT</td> <td>S.O. 1478(E) dated 29.03.2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Urad Dal under EXIM Codes: 07133190, 07139010 and 07139090</td> <td>1.5 Lakh MT</td> <td>S.O. 1480(E) dated 29.03.2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Pigeon Peas (Toor Dal) under EXIM Codes: 7136000, 07139010 and 07139090</td> <td>02 Lakh MT</td> <td>S.O. 1481 (E) dated 29.03.2019</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sl. No.	Item Description/ITC HS Code	Quantity to be allowed	Notification Number/Date	1	Peas (including Yellow peas, Green peas, Dun peas and Kaspas peas) under EXIM Codes: 07131000, 07139010 and 07139090	1.5 Lakh MT	S.O. 1479(E) dated 29.03.2019	2	Moong Dal under EXIM Codes: 07133110, 07139010 and 07139090	1.5 Lakh MT	S.O. 1478(E) dated 29.03.2019	3	Urad Dal under EXIM Codes: 07133190, 07139010 and 07139090	1.5 Lakh MT	S.O. 1480(E) dated 29.03.2019	4	Pigeon Peas (Toor Dal) under EXIM Codes: 7136000, 07139010 and 07139090	02 Lakh MT	S.O. 1481 (E) dated 29.03.2019
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8	Department of Revenue vide Notification No. 16/2019-Customs dated 15th June, 2019 has increased Basic Custom duty on Lentil (Masur) from existing 30% to 50%.																				
