

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 12.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
AVAILABILITY OF PULSES .

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Dr. Anil Kumar Sahani

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether population of the country is growing continuously and the production of pulses is declining year after year;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken to ensure availability of pulses at reasonable prices;
- (c) whether the Standing Committee on Finance, in its 6th Report, had asked Government to conduct an investigation into the reasons for infructuous import of unpalatable yellow peas from Canada and submit a factual report to the Committee within one month; and
- (d) if so, whether Government has submitted its report to that Committee and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

(SHRI K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Production of Pulses increased from 13.13 million tones during 2004-05 to 14.59 million tones during 2009-10 (Fourth Advance Estimates). To ensure availability of pulses, Government has reduced the import duty to Zero on pulses from 08.06.2006 and prohibited the export of pulses (except Kabuli Chana) up to 31.03.2011 to ensure availability of pulses in the country.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Import of yellow peas by Public Sector Units has been allowed keeping in view the general trend of import over the past years in which yellow peas constitute about half of the import of pulses. However, the prices of yellow peas in the international markets were much higher than in the country during 2008-09. As a result huge losses were incurred by PSUs and NAFED during 2008-09.