

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 12.11.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**PRODUCTION OF PULSES AND COTTON .**

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Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy

Will the Minister of COALCOALCOALCOALCOALAGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether early sowing trends are an indication that farmers have more or less chosen to bring in more areas under pulses and cotton this time while opting out oilseeds;
- (b) if so, whether according to Ministry's latest kharif sowing update a total area of 0.954 lakh hectares have so far been planted under pulses which is 18.8 per cent more than last year's coverage at this point of time; and
- (c) if so, to what extent total production of pulses and cotton have improved during current year and to what extent it has helped to meet shortage of pulses and cotton?

**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) to (c): As per the First Advance Estimates 2010-11, during Kharif the area under Pulses and Cotton has increased substantially. The estimated coverage of area under Pulses during Kharif 2010-11 is 111.64 lakh hectares as compared to last year's coverage of 105.53 lakh hectares during the same period (4th advance estimate 09-10). Similarly, the area coverage under Cotton during 2010-11 is reported to be 110.0 lakh hectares compared to last year's coverage of 103.10 lakh hectares (4th advance estimate 09-10). However, the area under oilseeds has substantially decreased during Kharif 2010-11 with coverage of 172.76 lakh hectares compared to last year's coverage of 181.03 lakh hectares.

Total production of pulses during 09-10 was recorded as 14.59 million tonnes (4th advance estimate), of which 4.3 million tonnes was from Kharif pulses. Whereas during 2010-11, the production of Kharif pulses is estimated at 6.0 million tonnes which is 1.7 million tonnes more than Kharif production of last year. Similarly, the production of cotton has also increased from 239.35 lakh bales in 2009-10 to 335.00 lakh bales during 2010-11 (1st advance estimate 2010-11). Thus, the increase in production of pulses and cotton is likely to meet the shortage of these crops during this year.