

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 276
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20/12/2024

**ASSESSMENT OF DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCE**

*276. DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether there is any mechanism to make an advance assessment of expected demand and supply of various agricultural produce so that excess production and acute shortage is prevented;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and whether the mechanism has been successful in percolating such information to the farmers to grow crops as per requirement, thereby, making farming profitable as well as taming the demand-supply mismatch; and
- (c) the new initiatives of Government to fine tune such advance assessment and to sensitize the farmers of the country well in advance in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 276 FOR 20/12/2024 REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCES.

(a) to (c): Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, releases three advance estimates and one final estimate of Area, Production and Yield in respect of 28 major agriculture crops during each agriculture year (July- June). The first advance estimates covers kharif crops and is released in the month of October. Second advance estimates covers both kharif and rabi crops and are released in month of February. Third advance estimates are released in the month of May and it covers Kharif, Rabi and Summer crops. The final estimates are released in the month of September after completion of the agriculture year.

To assess the demand and supply of different food commodities upto 2047-48, the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, Government of India vide OM dated 29th August, 2022 constituted a Working Group on Crop Husbandry, Agriculture Inputs, Demand and Supply. Accordingly, NITI Aayog, has released a report on Crops Husbandry, Agricultural Inputs, Demand and Supply” in 2024.

Agro-advisory is issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare from time to time related to weather, seed, soil, water, nutrient and health management of crops to create awareness amongst the farmers for taking appropriate action in time and selecting the right varieties, applying balanced fertilizers, efficient utilization of water and better management of pests and diseases of crops for making agriculture more remunerative and sustainable. The government also promotes Kisan Suvidha App and state-level Farmer Helplines to disseminate region-specific demand-supply trends to the farmers.

To achieve self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat) in Oilseed and Pulses, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) has approved National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds), a landmark initiative aimed at boosting domestic oilseed production and achieving self-reliance in edible oils. NMEO-Oilseeds is to focus on enhancing the production of key primary oilseed crops such as Rapeseed-Mustard, Groundnut, Soybean, Sunflower, and Sesamum, as well as increasing collection and extraction efficiency from secondary sources like Cottonseed, Rice Bran, and Tree Borne Oils. Also, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses is being implemented in 28 States and 2 Union Territories (Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh) with the objective to increase production of pulses through area expansion and productivity enhancement.

In order to augment market supply and to protect consumers from excessive price volatility in agri-horticultural commodities, the Government has been implementing Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) scheme since 2014-15. Under PSF, buffer stocks of major pulses and onion are maintained for market interventions and to discourage hoarding and unscrupulous speculation. Stocks from the buffer are released in a calibrated manner to augment availability in the market and stabilise prices. Government also pursued with Kharif onion producing States to increase the area coverage during the 2024-25 kharif season. Further, to reduce the pressure on the onion stock from conventional producing States, the States surrounding consuming centre like Delhi were also pursued for increasing Kharif onion area coverage. To achieve atmanirbhartha in pulses, under Price Support Scheme (PSS), the procurement ceiling has been lifted by the Government in respect of Tur, Urad and Masoor for the year 2024-25.
