

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2402
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21/03/2025

INITIATIVE TO ENHANCE PRODUCTION OF PULSES

2402. SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures being taken to promote the production of pulses and reduce dependence on imports;
- (b) the steps being taken to make India a leading pulse producer of the world, the details thereof; and
- (c) the efforts being made to provide research support and resources to farmers to improve the quality of pulses production?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): In order to increase the production of pulses in the country, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing National Food Security and Nutrition Mission-Pulses (NFSNM-Pulses) in all the districts of 28 States and 2 Union Territories (UTs) viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Under NFSNM-Pulses, the incentives are provided to the farmers, through the States/UTs, on crop production and protection technologies, cropping system based demonstrations, production & distribution of certified seeds of newly released varieties/hybrids, integrated nutrient and pest management techniques, capacity building of farmers through trainings during cropping season etc. Further, Targeting Rice Fallow Area (TRFA)-Pulses under NFSNM is being implemented in 11 states which gives emphasis on land that remains underutilized after harvesting of Kharif paddy crops and aims to bring a change in the cropping pattern during rabi season.

During 2024-25, a new focused approach under Cluster Frontline Demonstrations (CFLDs) of pulses is being implemented through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Further, minikits of pulse seed varieties not older than 10 years are distributed free of cost to the farmers and 150 seed hubs on pulses have been set up under NFSNM to augment the availability of quality seeds of pulses to farmers through ICAR. Assistance is also given for certified seed production through central seed agencies and seed hubs. Government of India also provides flexibility to the states for state specific needs under Pradhan Mantri-Rashtirya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY).

In order to boost production of pulses, the ICAR is undertaking basic and strategic research on pulses crops at the ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur and its four regional stations at Bhopal, Dharwad, Bikaner and Khordha. The ICAR is also undertaking applied research through All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Kharif and Rabi Pulses in collaboration with state agricultural universities for developing location-specific high yielding varieties and matching production technology packages to enhance productivity potential and overall production of pulses to meet their demand in the country. As a result, 437 high yielding varieties/hybrids of different pulses have been notified for commercial cultivation in the country during 2014-2024.
