

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**  
**Department of Consumer Affairs**

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2812**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2018**

**INCREASING PRICES OF PULSES**

2812. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI: SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE: SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the production and availability of pulses is expected to fall and there is a gap between demand and supply of pulses in the country during the last year and the current year, if so, the details thereof along with the impact of such a gap on the prices of pulses;
- (b) whether black-marketing/hoarding played a vital role in rising prices of pulses in the country, if so, the number of such cases reported across the country during the said period, State/UT-wise along with the action taken thereon;
- (c) the details of the production, demand, supply and import of major pulses in the country during the said period, State/ Country-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has increased the limit of the buffer stock of pulses and requested the States to sell the pulses from the buffer stock at subsidized prices and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated/is formulating any long term strategy to contain rising prices of pulses or plans to import pulses, if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken/ being taken by the Government to bridge the gap between demand and supply of pulses, curb black-marketing/hoarding of pulses and to ensure remunerative prices of pulses to the of farmers;
- (f) whether the efforts being made by the Government towards increasing the production of pulses are not yielding expected success/results and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the steps being taken by the Government to procure pulses from Punjab?

**ANSWER**

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री**  
**(श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE**  
**CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)**

(a) to (c) : As per the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advance Estimates, 2017-18 released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, the estimated production of pulses is 23.95 million tonnes in 2017-18 and 23.13 million tonnes in 2016-17 (Final Estimates). As per the Report of Working Group on Food grains - Balancing Demand & Supply During 12<sup>th</sup> Five Years Plan, the average annual estimated demand of pulses in the country was 24.61 million tonnes in 2016-17. Any mismatch between demand and supply is met through imports. The details of imports and State-wise production of pulses for the aforesaid period is at **ANNEXURE**. Because of the bumper production of pulses in 2016-17 and concomitant improved supply and moderation in prices, stock limits on pulses were withdrawn.

(d) : Government has enhanced the limit of the buffer stock of pulses from 1.5 lakh MT in 2015-16 to upto 20 lakh MT in 2016-17. Pulses from the buffer were offered to States at rates that were lower than their cost to the Central Government.

(e) & (f) : Government has taken various measures to contain the price rise of pulses which, inter alia, include appropriately utilizing trade and fiscal policy instruments like import duty, export-import restrictions, etc. to regulate domestic availability and moderate prices; enabling imposition of stock limits as and when required; provision of higher Minimum Support Prices to incentivize farmers for increasing production; and creation of buffer stock of upto 20 lakh MT through domestic procurement and imports etc.

Production of pulses increased from 16.35 million MT in 2015-16 to 23.95 million MT in 2017-18 due, in part, to the concerted efforts of Government through its various schemes targeted at enhancing production of pulses.

(g) : No procurement of pulses has been reported from Punjab, both under Price Support Scheme and Price Stabilization Fund.

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**ANNEXURE****STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) To (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2812 FOR 13.03.2018 REGARDING INCREASING PRICES OF PULSES.**  
-----**A) State-wise Production of Pulses('000 MT)**

<b>State</b>	<b>2016-17@</b>	<b>2017-18@</b>
Andhra Pradesh	1306.1	1144.0
Assam	67.3	114.0
Bihar	430.7	340.9
Chhattisgarh	625.0	532.9
Gujarat	839.0	857.0
Haryana	218.3	58.9
Himachal Pradesh	52.3	60.7
Jammu & Kashmir	8.3	8.6
Jharkhand	729.5	784.7
Karnataka	1426.0	1844.8
Kerala	0.7	1.0
Madhya Pradesh	5999.3	7793.1
Maharashtra	3156.6	3303.1
Odisha	418.0	429.9
Punjab	58.0	21.7
Rajasthan	2933.1	3108.9
Tamil Nadu	587.3	545.4
Telangana	398.0	448.4
Uttar Pradesh	2302.3	1985.0
Uttarakhand	56.0	60.0
West Bengal	343.8	354.5
Others	181.3	150.1
<b>All India</b>	<b>22136.6</b>	<b>23947.6</b>

**@ :2<sup>nd</sup> Advance Estimates, 2016-17 & 2017-18**

Source:-D/o Economic &amp; Statistics, D/o Agriculture, Cooperation &amp; Famers Welfare

**B) Country-wise Import of Pulses in MT**

<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18 (Apr to Jan)</b>
CANADA	2,402,422	1,679,780
AUSTRALIA	1,174,151	1,211,976
RUSSIA	392,274	605,708
MYANMAR	653,874	549,928
UKRAINE	157,317	384,121
ROMANIA	44,195	176,122
MOZAMBIQUE	197,936	119,440
FRANCE	216,364	90,795
U S A	319,251	88,428
TANZANIA REP	297,803	83,191
BULGARIA	15,849	58,609
SUDAN	59,909	55,588
LITHUANIA	284,964	52,283
CHINA P RP	67,175	38,909
GERMANY	23,069	25,979
ARGENTINA	31,833	21,971
ETHIOPIA	34,137	20,230
MALAWI	46,612	12,369
UZBEKISTAN	23,436	10,633
AFGHANISTAN	12,718	10,207
Others	147,087	34,050
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6,609,487</b>	<b>5,330,317</b>

Note: Figures pertaining to the current financial year 2017-18 is Provisional and subject to changes.

Source:- Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), M/o Commerce & Industry

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