

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 510
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY, 2018

IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

510. SHRI V. ELUMALAI:
SHRI G. HARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the Government will soon come out with a formula to increase or decrease import of agricultural commodities and to allow their export or restrict it by fixing a benchmark price and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the MSP which is assured by the Government to farmers is fixed every year for 24 commodities and the main items are rice, wheat, pulses and oil seeds and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that a committee would be empowered to consider changes in import duties and impose quantitative restrictions on trade based on domestic and international production and demand trends;
- (d) whether pulses production will be sustained and the country's import dependence on pulses will come down substantially;
- (e) whether it is also true that the Government has decided to abolish the curb imposed on export of pulses; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a): There is no such proposal under consideration in Government.
- (b): Yes, Madam. MSP is fixed by Government for 24 commodities. The commodities on which MSP is fixed every year are paddy, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, arhar, moong, urad, cotton, groundnut in shell, sunflower seed, soya bean, sesamum, niger seed, wheat, barley, gram masur, rapeseed/ mustard, safflower, toria, copra, de-husked coconut and jute.
- (c): Government has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee to review prices, availability, export, import etc. of essential agriculture commodities on weekly basis and suggest the suitable trade policy measures, if any, to protect the interests of the farmers and consumers.
- (d): Ministry of Agriculture has been implementing National Food Security Mission- Pulses since 2007-08 with the objective to increase production of pulses and reduce import dependency on this commodity. A record production of pulses at 22.95 million tons has already been achieved in 2016-17 (4th Advance Estimates).
- (e) & (f): Restrictions on export of all varieties of pulses including organic pulses have been removed w.e.f. 22.11.2017.
