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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5236TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27TH MARCH, 2018

DECLINE IN PULSE PRODUCTION

5236. SHRIMATI KAVITHA KALVAKUNTLA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE ‡ãoŠãaÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ¨ããè be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of pulses in the country has been witnessing a decline in the country during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any measures to improve the production and productivity of pulses during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

‡ãðŠãäÓã एवं किसान कल्याण ½ãâ¨ããÊã¾ã ½ãñâ À㕾ã ½ãâ¨ããè (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) & (b): On account of deficit /deficient rainfall during monsoon season, unseasonal rains/hailstorms and adverse temperature conditions etc., the production of pulses declined during 2015-16 to 16.35 million tonnes as compared to the previous record production of 19.25 million tonnes achieved in 2013-14. However, due to normal monsoon in 2016, the production of pulses increased to 23.13 million tonnes during 2016-17 in the country.
- (c) & (d): In order to increase the production and productivity of pulses, Government of India has been implementing various Crop Development Schemes / Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Soil Health Card, etc.

Additional Area Coverage of Pulses during Rabi/Summer is a programme under NFSM-Pulses. The interventions covered under Additional Area Coverage of Pulses include demonstrations on improved technologies, distribution of certified seeds, effective water application tools, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

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Further, to boost production of pulses in the country, Government has initiated various additional steps from the year 2016-17 which include creation of seed hubs through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs); breeder seed production through ICAR institutes; distribution of seed minikits of pulses free of cost to farmers, incentives for seed production, etc.

The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of pulses have also been increased over the years to encourage farmers to grow more pulses by ensuring remunerative prices.
