

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1094
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023

INCREASE IN PRODUCTION OF PULSES

1094. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of pre and the post-harvest losses in the case of various pulses ranging from 4.3% to 6.1%, if so, the steps being taken by the Government for the modernization of pulses processing plants to reduce post-harvest losses;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the pulses production as the average yield of all pulses is less when compared to the world average; and
- (c) whether the Government has put any efforts to expand the area of pulses in rice fallows available in eastern and southern States, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(साध्वी निरंजन ज्योति)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) : The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is mandated to create post-harvest infrastructure and processing facilities, *inter-alia*, to boost the overall development of the food processing sector including reduction in post-harvest losses; create off farm employment, and enhance value addition and exports of processed food. MoFPI has commissioned studies on post-harvest losses in various agriculture commodities through (i) Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (ICAR-CIPHET) in 2015, and (ii) NABARD Consultancy Service Pvt. Ltd (NABCONS) in 2022.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) implements the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) as a comprehensive package for creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet. The PMKSY had seven component schemes viz; (i) Mega Food Parks, (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, (iii) Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters, (iv) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages, (v) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities, (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure and (vii) Human Resources and Institutions.

(b) : To increase pulses production, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DAFW) implements the National Food Security Mission Programme (NFSM) in identified districts across the country. The NFSM-Pulses is being implemented in 644 districts of 28 States and 2 Union Territories of the country (J&K and Ladakh). Under NFSM-Pulses assistance is given to farmers for interventions like cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices, demonstrations on cropping system, distribution of seeds of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs)/ hybrids, improved farm machineries/ resource conservation machineries/ tools, efficient water application tools, plant protection measures, nutrient management/ soil ameliorants, processing and post-harvest equipments, cropping system based trainings to the farmers etc. through State Governments. In addition, the certified seeds of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs)/ hybrids of pulses are provided in the form the seed minikits free of cost to the farmers.

(c) : Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) Programme, the Targeting Rice Fallow Area (TRFA)-Pulses is being implemented in 11 States of the country 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 by introducing appropriate varieties of pulses that can be cultivated using available moisture. It is being implemented through a combination of innovative technological interventions and provision of essential agri-inputs including extension services in 11 TRFA implementing States. TRFA Programme was initiated in the year 2016-17 in 6 States namely, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal. The coverage was expanded to 5 new States namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu during 2019-20.
