

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 267
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH AUGUST, 2023

PRODUCTION OF PULSES

*267. SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:
SHRI RAVI KISHAN:

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state;

- (a) the difference in the pulse production during 2022-23 as compared to the previous year along with the total pulse production in the said year;
- (b) whether the pulse production has decreased as compared to the previous years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of pulse production during the last three years, year-wise;
- (e) the effective steps being taken by the Government to increase the pulse production in the country; and
- (f) the measures being taken by the Government to increase the Pigeon Pea production in Wardha and Amravati of Vidarbha?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 267 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 08.08.2023 REGARDING 'PRODUCTION OF PULSES'.

(a) to (e): Department of Agriculture, & Farmers Welfare is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses with the objectives of increasing pulses production through area expansion and productivity enhancement in all the districts of 28 States and 2 Union Territories viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh of the Country. Under NFSM-Pulses, assistance is given through State /UTs governments to the farmers for interventions like cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices, demonstrations on cropping system, seed production and distribution of HYVs/hybrids, improved farm machineries/resource conservation machineries/tools, efficient water application tools, plant protection measures, nutrient management/soil ameliorants, processing & post-harvest equipment, cropping system based trainings etc. Initiatives like distribution of seed minikits of newer varieties of pulses, production of quality seed, technological demonstration by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have also been included under NFSM for enhancing pulses production and productivity. Further, 150 Seed Hubs on Pulses have been set up under NFSM since 2016-17 to augment the availability of quality seed of Pulses. These Seed Hub centres have cumulatively produced more than 1 lakh quintal quality seed of pulses since then.

In order to increase the productivity potential of pulses crops in the country, the ICAR is undertaking basic and strategic research on these crops and applied research in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities for developing location-specific high yielding varieties and matching production packages. During 2014-2023, 343 high yielding varieties/hybrids of Pulses have been notified for commercial cultivation in the country. During the last five years (2018-19 to 2022-23), cumulatively, about 86015 qtl. breeder seed of Pulse crops was produced against total demand of about 68499 qtl. and supplied to various public/private seed agencies for their conversion into certified seed of pulses for the farmers.

Further to ensure remunerative prices to farmers, Government implements an umbrella scheme PM-AASHA comprising Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Private Procurement Stockist Scheme (PPSS) in order to ensure Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers for their produce of notified oilseeds, pulses and copra. Under PSS scheme, procurement is undertaken directly from pre- registered farmers conforming to the prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms by Central Nodal Agencies through the State level agencies at MSP announced by the Govt. as and when prices fall below the MSP during the harvesting period. During the year 2021-22, a total of 30.31 lakh tonnes of

pulses were procured under PSS benefitting 13,90,737 farmers, while during 2022-23 (as on 31.07.2023) 28.33 lakh tonnes of pulses have been procured so far, benefitting 12,43,977 farmers.

Due to various steps taken by the Government, pulses production has increased over the last five years. Total pulses production in the country has increased from 220.76 lakh tonnes in 2018-19 to 254.63 lakh tonnes in 2020-21 and to 273.02 lakh tonnes in 2021-22. As per Third Advance estimates, total pulses production in 2022-23 has further increased by 2.02 lakh tonnes over last year to 275.04 lakh tonnes.

(f): The Government is distributing pulses seed minikits including Pigeon pea to popularize newly released high yielding varieties among farmers. During 2023-24, a total of 84,325 nos. of Pigeonpea / Arhar seed minikits have been allocated to Maharashtra State. Further, Government is implementing Cluster Front Line Demonstration (CFLDs) through ICAR for popularizing latest production technologies and latest varieties. During 2023-24, a total of 4250 nos (1700 ha) of Pigeon pea / Arhar CFLDs have been allocated to Maharashtra.

The details of Pigeon Pea Seed Minikits allocated and CFLDs conducted in Amaravati and Wardha districts are as under:

Measures	Amaravati	Wardha
Pigeon Pea minikits supplied during 2022-23	3848	2723
Pigeon Pea minikits Allocation during 2023-24	10000	6675
Nos of CFLDs conducted during 2022-23	100 (40 ha)	50 (20 ha)
Nos of CFLDs Allocated during 2023-24	510 (204 ha)	340 (136 ha)

As is evident from the table, compared to previous year 2022-23, the allocation of seed minikits and CFLDS in the districts of Amaravati and Wardha has increased manifold during 2023-24.
