

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 803**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024**

**PRICE STABILIZATION FUND**

803. DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE: SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:  
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has established Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) to contain the price rise of agricultural commodities;
- (b) if so, the details of the crops covered under the PSF of the Union Government;
- (c) whether the Union Government has created a buffer stock of pulses under PSF through both domestic procurement and imports; and
- (d) if so, the quantity of buffer stock of pulses created so far along with the quantity of pulses released therefrom during the last two years to meet the shortage?

**ANSWER**

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री**  
**(श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE**  
**CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b) : Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) has been set up in 2014-15 to mitigate the hardship faced by consumers due to price volatility in agri-horticultural commodities. Till date total budgetary support Rs. 27,489.14 crore has been provided for price stabilization operations. The objectives of PSF are (i) to promote direct purchase from farmers/farmers' associations at farm gate/ mandi; (ii) to maintain a strategic buffer stock that would discourage hoarding and unscrupulous speculation; and (iii) to protect consumers by supplying such commodities at reasonable prices through calibrated release of stock. Under this scheme, dynamic buffer stock of pulses (Tur, Urad, Moong, Masur and Gram) and Onions have been created over the years. The maintenance of buffer stock and calibrated releases from buffer helped in checking price volatility and ensuring availability of these food commodities at affordable prices to the consumers. Market interventions have also been carried out for Tomato and Potato under PSF to stabilise price volatility and make them available at affordable prices.

(c) & (d) : Under this scheme, dynamic buffer stock of pulses has been created through procurement of domestic and imported stocks and acquisition of stocks procured under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). Since its inception a total of 91.62 lakh tons of pulses has been acquired under PSF buffer and 86.45 lakh tons has been disposed. During 2022-23 and 2023-24 (till 31.01.2024) a total of 24.19 lakh tons of pulses was released from the buffer.

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