

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2890  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2016**

**IMPORT OF PULSES**

2890. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT:  
DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:  
KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV:  
SHRI C.R. PATIL:  
SHRI NIMMALA KRISTAPPA:  
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M.SCINDIA:  
PROF. RAVINDRA VISHWANATH GAIKWAD:  
SHRI V. PANNEERSELVAM:  
SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

**(OIH)**

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to import pulses to meet the increasing demand and check prices, if so, the details thereof indicating the production, demand and import during the last three years and the estimates for the ensuing year;
- (b) whether the Government maintains any buffer stock of pulses to hedge against any unprecedented decline in production, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether most of the States have not lifted imported pulses offered by the Government at subsidised prices which are still lying in the central pool, if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum imported, offered and lifted by the States, State-wise;
- (d) whether some traders have reportedly formed cartels purchasing and hoarding pulses abroad thereby jacking up the prices, if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps, including action against such importers/hoarders, being taken in this regard; and
- (e) the other steps being taken to improve production and availability of pulses?

**ANSWER**

**Yes, Madam. The Government has taken a decision to create a buffer stock of 1.5 lakh tonnes of pulses through both domestic procurement and imports to improve domestic availability and stabilise prices. The requisite details are at Annexure-I.**

**THE MINISTER FOR  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)**

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. The Government has taken a decision to create a buffer stock of 1.5 lakh tonnes of pulses through both domestic procurement and imports to improve domestic availability and stabilise prices. The requisite details are at **Annexure-I**.

(c) : No, Madam. The imported Tur has been allocated after mutual consultation and also based on specific requirement of the States. The details are given at **Annexure-II**.

(d) : There have been reports that some private importers did attempt forming cartels and cornering stocks of certain pulses in producer countries with an objective of delaying their arrival in India, thereby increasing its prices. Domestic searches and surveys have been conducted on a number of importers, traders and financiers engaged in pulses trade. A Group of Officers has been set up for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc. to facilitate coordinated action.

(e) : The requisite details are at **Annexure-III**.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANNEXURE-I**

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2890 FOR 15.03.2016 REGARDING IMPORT OF PULSES.**

-----

**Production, Demand and Import of Pulses**

(In Million MT)				
Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Production( MMT)	18.34	19.25	17.15	17.33
Imports(MMT)	3.84	3.53	4.58	5.55*
Demand (MMT)	20.90	21.77	22.68	23.66

\* Up to March 1, 2016

Source:- Niti Ayog ; 2<sup>nd</sup> Advance Estimastes,2015-16; D/o Commerce

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANNEXURE-II**

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2890 FOR 15.03.2016 REGARDING IMPORT OF PULSES.**

-----

**Allocation/Distribution of Imported Tur by Government**

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>State/Agency</b>	<b>Allocation(MT)</b>	<b>Lifted(MT)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	1872	1872
<b>2</b>	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	1105	1000
<b>3</b>	<b>Telangana</b>	800	500
<b>4</b>	<b>Odisha</b>	300	Nil
<b>5</b>	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	500	500
<b>6</b>	<b>Manipur</b>	395	Nil
<b>7</b>	<b>Delhi</b>	<b>Mother Dairy</b>	300
		<b>Kendriya Bhandar</b>	250
<b>8</b>		<b>(i) Total lifted</b>	<b>4422</b>
		<b>(ii) Total Import</b>	<b>4927</b>
		<b>(iii) Balance</b>	<b>505</b>

Note: The imports were channelised through the Metals & Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC), Department of Commerce.

\*\*\*\*\*

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2890 FOR 15.03.2016 REGARDING IMPORT OF PULSES.**

---

**A) Steps taken to improve production of pulses**

- Government has been implementing several Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) and Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM).
- National Food Security Mission has been strengthened from 1.4.2010 with the merger of pulses component of ISOPOM. In addition, a new programme “Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P)” has been started under NFSM since 2010-11 to take up active propagation of key technologies in the form of block demonstrations for improving productivity of pulses.
- Further, a Special Plan to achieve more than 19 million tonnes of pulse production during 2012-13 has also been initiated, and pulses have also been included under Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI) from 2015-16 as part of demonstrations under cropping systems based approach to target rice fallow areas
- To encourage farmers to grow more pulses by ensuring remunerative prices, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of pulses have also been increased over the years.
- Research institutes like ICAR, IIPR, SAUs besides ICARDA and ICRISAT are making efforts to evolve better varieties of pulses.

**B) Steps take to improve availability of pulses**

- Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils
- Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
- Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
- Government imported 5000 MT of Tur from Malawi/Mozambique and allocated it to States for retail sale to consumers to improve availability and to moderate prices.
- Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention.

\*\*\*\*\*