

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1474**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

**EFFECT OF DROUGHT ON PRODUCTION OF PULSES**

1474. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country faced crisis due to consecutive drought years that led to low production of pulses in 2014-15 and 2015-16;
- (b) if so, whether production and procurement of pulses have increased sharply during 2016-19;
- (c) whether the Union Government has offered a discount to the States for its scheme with subsidy of Rs. 15/- per kg;
- (d) if so, whether this Ministry has called a meeting of the State's representatives in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the outcome of the meeting and the decision arrived at for dispatch of pulses to the States?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam, on account of deficit rainfall during monsoon season, unseasonal rains / hailstorms and adverse temperature conditions etc., production of pulses during 2014-15 and 2015-16 declined to 17.15 million tonnes and 16.32 million tonnes, respectively as compared to the previous record production of 19.26 million tonnes in 2013-14. However, due to normal monsoon in 2016 and near normal monsoon in 2017 along with various measures taken by the Government, production of pulses increased to 23.13 million tonnes during 2016-17 which further increased to 25.23 million tonnes during 2017-18 (as per 4<sup>th</sup> Advance Estimates). Accordingly, procurement of pulses has also increased sharply during 2016-17 to 2018-19 (upto 02.02.2019).

The first comprehensive assessment of production of major food crops including pulses in the country for whole agriculture year including rabi crops is available with Second Advance Estimates normally released around mid-February. However, as per 1<sup>st</sup> Advance Estimates, the production of pulses in the country during Kharif season of 2018-19 is estimated at 9.22 million tonnes.

Contd..2/-

(c) to (e): Yes Madam, the Union Government has offered a discount to the States for its scheme with subsidy of Rs.15/- per kg.

Video conference with States/UTs was organized on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 on “Scheme of Disposal of Pulses with Central Subsidy of Rs.15 per kg. to States / UTs for utilization under various Welfare Schemes”. The deliberations focused on the modalities of the scheme for expeditious disposal of stock based on assessed requirement of States / UTs.

Since the operation of the scheme, 3,69,403 metric tonnes of pulses is issued to States/UTs (as on January, 2019) at discounted rate for utilizing the stock under various welfare schemes.

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