

[3 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

Production of Pulses

†293. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a country of vegetarian people, pulses not only constitute a part of their normal meal but these are nutritious also and their production in the country is less than their requirement;

(b) if so, what has been the total production of pulses in the country during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, separately;

(c) what has been the year-wise estimated rate of production, per hectare, of pulses during the above years in the country; and

(d) the extent to which the above rate is lower as compared to pulse exporting countries of the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Pulses are one of the major sources of protein. The per capita requirement of protein per day is assessed by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) at 60 gms for man and 50 gms for woman out of which contribution of pulses is about two-thirds i.e. 33 gms. per day. 65% of the weight of pulses contain protein. Thus to obtain 33 gms per capita per day of proteins, 53 gms pulses are required per capita per day. At this rate the annual requirement works out to about 180 lakh Metric tonnes. As against this, the availability is 158.9 lakh Metric tonnes.

(b) The total production of pulses in the country during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given below:—

1996-97	142.4 lakh Metric tonnes
1997-98	130.7 lakh Metric tonnes
1998-99	158.9 lakh Metric tonnes

(c) The year-wise estimated rate of production per hectare of pulses during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given below:—

1996-97	635 kg
1997-98	572 kg
1998-99	661 kg

(d) The rate of production per hectare in respect of pulse exporting countries of the world is indicated below:—

China	1478 kg	Myanmar	689 kg
Australia	1065 kg	Turkey	962 kg

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.