

- Provisions have also been made for sensitising Judiciary and public prosecutors.
- Publication of Annual Reports, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).
- On-Line Complaint registration facility on the Ministry's Website.
- Organising sensitisation workshops/ seminars, launching of 'Save the Girl Child' campaign, seeking cooperation from the NGOs/religious leaders, etc.
- Further, under the National Rural Health Mission, Auxiliary Nursing Midwife (ANM) and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) are being sensitised on the issue. Also, funds have been provided to all States/UTs under the Rural Child Health programme for implementation of the Act and related activities.
- Steps are also afoot to further strengthen the PC & PNDT Act, 1994 and the Rules framed thereunder in consultation with the legal experts and all the stake holders. It is proposed to amend the Act suitably with a view to making penalty provisions for violators of the Act more stringent, including imposition of fine up to Rs.5 lakhs and incarceration up to 1 year upon conviction, is being considered in consultation with legal experts and all the stake holders.

Smuggling of foodgrains to Bangladesh and Nepal

†*177. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of wheat, rice and other foodgrains are being smuggled to Nepal and Bangladesh from the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States from where this smuggling is taking place and the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Union Government has failed to stop smuggling inspite of having information;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the steps being taken by Government to stop smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (e) To prevent smuggling of foodgrains and other items from India to Nepal and Bangladesh, Deptt. of Revenue, Ministry of Finance and Border Security Forces of Ministry of Home Affairs maintain vigil at international borders and take required preventive action.

As reported by Deptt. of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, and Border Security Force (BSF) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Ministry of Home Affairs, smuggling of huge quantities of foodgrains from India is not taking place to Nepal and Bangladesh. However, instances of smuggling of small quantities of foodgrains and other food articles have been detected by these agencies. Details of seizure of such items at Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bangladesh Borders during the current year are as follows:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

	Dept. of Revenue Anti Smuggling Unit (CBEC) (Indo-Bangladesh and Indo- Nepal Borders)	BSF (Indo- Bangladesh Border)	SSB (Indo- Nepal Border)
Value of foodgrains seized (Rs. Lakhs)	355.80	175	34.638

The above mentioned agencies are maintaining strict vigil on the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bangladesh borders to prevent smuggling activities.

Long-term plan for self-sufficiency in foodgrains production

*178. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the absence of a long term plan to achieve self-sufficiency in foodgrains, the country will be a chronic importer of foodgrains by 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to chalk out a long term plan to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of foodgrains to avoid imports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) (a) to (d) According to a report of the National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NCAP) under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) submitted to Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India in June, 2008 on review of the Existing Buffer Stocking Policy the total domestic demand, direct and indirect, for foodgrains is likely to grow to 253.2 million tonnes in 2021-22. In the year 2007-08, the country has achieved a record production of 230.67 million tonnes.

The foodgrains demand and supply scenario in the country was reviewed in the 53rd meeting of National Development Council (NDC) held on 29th May, 2007 which resolved to launch a food security mission to produce additional 20 million tonnes of foodgrains (rice 10 million tonnes, wheat 8 million tonnes and pulses 2 million tonnes) by 2011-12 to meet the growing demand of foodgrains and make the country self-sufficient in foodgrains production. To operationalize the resolution of NDC, the centrally sponsored mission mode programme National Food Security Mission has been launched since October, 2007 in 312 districts of 17 States with an outlay of Rs. 4882.48 crores for XI Plan period (2007-08 to 2011-12) focusing on rice, wheat and pulses to produce additional 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by 2011-12. Besides, the Integrated Cereal Development Programme

(ICDP – Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals) is implemented under Macro Management Programme in Non-NFSM districts in all the States and Union Territories (UTs) to boost the production and productivity of these foodgrains. For the development of pulses and maize, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) is implemented in 14 major pulses growing States in