

1	2
35.	Gol in DoAC- Tunisia
36.	Gol in the DoAC- USDA, USA
37.	Gol in the DoAC- USDA, USA
38.	Gol, M/o Agriculture (In DoAC)- M/o Agriculture, Mozambique

Price rise of egg and chicken

1518. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the price of poultry feed have increased from the last year;
- (b) if so, whether it has resulted in sharp increase in the price of egg and chicken;
- (c) what steps are being taken by Government to bring down the prices of poultry feed; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. The cost of poultry feed, has increased from last year during this period (June-July) as per available information.

(b) No such studies have been done attributing increase in poultry feed price to increase in price of egg and chicken. As per industry data of various centers, the prices of chicken and eggs have increased during the period.

(c) and (d) In order to increase the availability of major poultry feed ingredient maize and containing its prices in the domestic market, Government banned its export in 2008 from early July till mid-October, which discouraged hoarding by traders. The Government also facilitates information dissemination regarding availability of damaged grains from Food Corporation of India (FCI) for uptake, often at subsidized prices, to poultry industry. As a long-term measure, Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses is focusing towards increasing yield and quality of maize and oilseeds.

Decline in the production of rice

1519. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the production of rice in the country has fallen below the target in the last three years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government has taken measures to boost production of rice to meet the growing demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. The estimated production of rice in the country during the last three years has not fallen below the corresponding targets.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to further increase the production of rice in the country, Government of India is implementing various programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. The minimum Support Price of paddy has also been raised substantially during 2008-09.

Rise in price of agricultural apparatus

†1520. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last three-four-years the agricultural apparatus have become more expensive;

(b) if so, the names of the apparatus which have got expensive;

(c) whether it is also a fact that farmers are not able to derive their due profit due to agricultural apparatus getting expensive; and

(d) if so, the measures adopted by Government to bring down the prices of agricultural apparatus and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Data on price rise of individual agricultural machinery and implements and the impact on farmers profit is not available, due to diversity of manufacturers as also the very wide variety of types and sizes of agricultural machinery and implements. The prices of agricultural machinery and implements are governed by market forces and vary from State to State and area to area within the States.

(d) The Government has taken measures such as waiving of Excise duty on all agricultural implements and subsidy to farmers for the purchase of different agricultural equipments under various Government schemes has been increased from the year 2007-08.

Implementation of Kuttanad package in Kerala

1521. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Kuttanad package in Kerala;

(b) the total amount sanctioned and the amount released so far;

(c) whether there is any delay in implementing the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government to speed up the implementation?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.