

### **Production of pulses**

3067. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 1998-99, the country's pulse production peaked at 14.91 million tonnes and ever since the pulse production had never caught up with the population growth at an average of 1.3 per cent to 1.5 per cent per annum;

(b) whether despite rise in prices on average annual basis during this period by 6.3 per cent for Chana, 6.1 per cent for Arhar, 6.5 per cent for Moong and 8.6 per cent for Urad, no corresponding crop migration from cereals to pulses had taken place;

(c) whether it would be futile to attempt bringing more acreage under pulses; and

(d) if so, whether Government would focus on improving productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):  
(a) Yes, Sir. The production of pulses in the country has peaked at 14.91 million tones during 1998-99 and 2003-04.

(b) The area coverage under pulses in the country during 1998-99 was 23.50 lakh hectares. Thereafter, the area under pulses has remained lower except during 2007-08 when it was marginally higher at 23.63 lakh hectares.

(c) and (d) There is scope for expansion of pulse cultivation in the country. As per estimates, more than 25 lakh hectare can be brought additionally under pulses cultivation. This includes use of rice-fallow, intercropping, catch cropping etc. Indian Council of Agricultural Research is implementing a programme to improve the productivity through development of hybrids in pegeonpea and high yielding varieties in different pulse crops having inbuilt resistance to different biotic stresses and response to nutrients and irrigation. The package technology with improved varieties is being demonstrated for enhancement of productivity and adoption by the farmers.

### **Maritime Zones of India Act, 1976**

3068. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maritime Zones of India Act, 1976 stipulates the distance of 12 nautical miles from the coast under the compete authority of State concerned;

(b) whether there is any proposal to amend the clause;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The "The Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and other Maritime Zones Act, 1976" defines the boundaries of territorial waters and

Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of India, and stipulates that the limit of territorial waters is the line every point of which is at a distance of 12 nautical miles from the nearest point of the appropriate baseline.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The limit of territorial sea under the act is in conformity with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, which provides the right to coastal States to establish the breadth of their territorial sea upto a limit not exceeding 12 nautical miles, measured from the baseline.

**Plan to increase production of pulses and oilseeds**

†3069. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formulated a new plan to increase the production of pulses and oilseeds in the country during the financial year 2010-2011;

(b) if so, the outlines of this plan and State-wise number of villages of the country selected for implementation of this plan and the basis on which those villages have been selected; and

(c) the targeted production and the amount allocated for expenditure under this plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. To meet the increasing demand of pulses and oilseeds in the country, Government of India has been implementing National Food Security Mission on Pulses in 16 Major Pulses growing States and Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 States of the country. Besides, under the Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) scheme, assistance is also provided for pulses and Oilseeds development in the states which are not covered under NFSM and ISOPOM Programme.

NFSM Pulses has been strengthened with additional components and a new programme “Accelerated Pulses Production Programme” has been started from 2010-11.

In addition to this, Finance Minister in his budget speech of 2010-11 announced that an amount of Rs. 300 crores has been earmarked to organize sixty thousand “Pulses and Oilseeds villages” in rainfed areas during 2010-11, to enhance the productivity of dry land farming areas where pulses and oilseeds are grown predominantly. These funds would be provided as additional central assistance under the ongoing scheme ‘Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana’.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.