

(b) to (d) Indian Railways' network is spread across the country. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **MSP for pulses**

\*452. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a bold initiative to promote production of pulses by raising their Minimum Support Price (MSP) between 14 and 30 per cent;

(b) whether the Prime Minister went beyond recommendations of the Committee for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP) in raising the MSP for pulses, particularly arhar;

(c) whether CACP has recommended MSP of Rs. 2800/- a quintal for arhar against Rs. 2300/- last year;

(d) if so, whether Government decided to fix it higher at Rs. 3,000/- an increase of roughly 30 per cent; and

(e) if so, to what extent this support price increase has given us dividends?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif Pulses for 2010-11 season have been increased over the respective MSPs for 2009-10 season. The MSPs of Kharif pulses for 2009-10 and 2010-11 season are given below:

	(Rs. in quintal)	
Pulse	2009-10	2010-11
Arhar (Tur)	2300	3000
Moong	2760	3170
Urad	2520	2900

In case of Arhar (Tur), the MSP fixed by the Government is Rs. 3000 per quintal against Rs. 2800 per quintal recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). In addition, for kharif pulses of 2010-11 season, an additional incentive is available to the farmers at the rate of Rs. 5 per kg. for tur, urad and moong sold to procurement agencies during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

The MSP fixed by the Government for Arhar (Tur) for 2010-11 is 30.4 percent higher compared to 2009-10. In case of moong and urad the increase has been 14.9 and 15.1 percent respectively.

The substantial increase in the MSPs of pulses is expected to incentivise farmers to increase their production.

#### **Implementation of Right to Education Act**

†\*453. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to implement the Right to Education Act in the country;

(b) if so, whether hurdles which will come in the way of implementation of this law, have been identified;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the Departments being entrusted with responsibility for redressal of these problems; and

(d) whether Government has addressed this issue by approaching all the Departments responsible for redressal of these problems?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come into force with effect from 1st April, 2010. The Government has received representations from State Governments and other stakeholders on various issues such as financial resources for implementation of the RTE Act, teacher qualifications, admission procedure in specified category and unaided schools and schools run by minority organizations. The Government has taken various steps for implementation of the RTE Act, including notifying the (a) RTE Rules, 2010; (b) National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) as the academic authority to lay down teacher qualifications, (c) National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) as the academic authority to lay down the curriculum and evaluation procedure, and (d) National Advisory Council (NAC) under the Act. In addition, Government has taken steps to align the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) norms with the provisions of the RTE Act. The Government is in constant dialogue with the State Governments and stakeholders to address the issues relating to implementation of the Act. The Government had convened a meeting of State Education Ministers on 18th June, 2010, in which issues relating to teacher recruitment, redeployment, and teacher qualifications and training were discussed in keeping with the provisions of RTE Act. In the meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on 19th June, 2010 issues relating to aligning SSA norms with the RTE Act were discussed. On 14th August, 2010 issues relating to admission procedure in specified category and unaided schools, as also education in Minority institutions were discussed with a wide cross section of stakeholders.

#### **Use of balanced manure**

† \*454. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where regular production has increased due to use of balanced manure during last five years;

(b) whether there has been any decrease in the demand of chemical fertilizers due to use of such manure; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.