

**Implementation of reservation for OBCs in
Jamia Millia Islamia**

*248. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation for OBCs has been implemented in Jamia Millia Islamia; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Jamia Millia Islamia had found it difficult to adhere to the time limit of three years, prescribed by sub-section (2) of Section 5 of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006, for creation of the requisite physical and academic infrastructure and had requested for extending the time limit. The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Amendment Bill, 2010, envisaging, *inter-alia*, enhancement of the period for giving effect to the provisions of the Act from the existing three years to six years, has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 6.8.2010.

Shortfall in production of fruits and vegetables

*249. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of fruits and vegetables has been hit this year due to prolonged monsoon in Northern part of the country;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet the shortfall;

(d) whether attention of Government has been drawn to high level of food inflation prevailing in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to tackle this in the short term?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No major shortfall in overall production of fruits and vegetables has been reported from the northern part of India, this year. The State Governments have reported as follows:—

State	Status
1	2
Bihar	No impact reported.
Chhattisgarh	No impact reported.

1	2
Jharkhand	No impact reported.
Madhya Pradesh	No impact reported.
Punjab	No impact reported.
Rajasthan	No impact reported.
Uttar Pradesh	No impact reported.
Haryana	Estimated 1.92 lakh MT less production of vegetables upto September, 2010 on year to year basis.
Himachal Pradesh	The production of fruit crops has been hit slightly by the monsoon this year. However, the production of fruit crops is the highest ever in the State this year (9.34 lakh MT as on 22.11.2010).
Jammu and Kashmir	Rains have affected the production of fruit crops especially strawberry and cherry in Kashmir Division (cherry 11000 MT and strawberry 150 MT).
Uttarakhand	Due to excessive rains this year production decreased by approximately 4% in potato, 5% in pea and 2% in other vegetables.

(c) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing two centrally sponsored schemes, viz. (i) Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and (ii) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for the holistic development of horticulture including fruits and vegetables by adopting an area based regionally differentiated cluster approach. In addition, funds are provided under RKVY for supply of vegetable seeds, etc.

(d) and (e) Following short term measures, *inter alia*, have been taken by the Government to contain price rise of food articles:

Fiscal Measures

- (i) Reduced import duties to zero — for rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude); butter and ghee; and to 7.5% for refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils.
- (ii) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under Open General License (OGL).

Administrative Measures

- (i) Banned export of non-basmati rice, edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and pulses (except kabuli chana).
- (ii) Minimum Export Price (MEP) is implemented to regulate exports of onion (at \$525 per tonne).
- (iii) Suspension of Future Trading in rice, urad and tur by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 continues during 2010-11.
- (iv) For the month of September, 2010, 16.72 lakh tonnes of non levy sugar have been made available. Besides, levy sugar quota of 2.28 lakh tonnes also been released.
- (v) Extended stock limit orders in the case of pulses, paddy and rice for a period upto 30th September, 2011, edible oil and edible oilseeds upto 31st March, 2011, sugar upto 31st December, 2010.
- (vi) Sale of Yellow Peas dal through retail outlets of NAFED, Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF and Mother Dairy in Delhi.

Wholesale Price Index (WPI) of food articles, has declined to 10.3% for the week ending on 6.11.2010 as compared to 12.3% for the week ending on 30.10.2010.

Hazardous effects of Endosulfan

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

- (a) whether use of pesticide Endosulfan causes severe health hazards that lead to horrendous diseases and permanent disability among people affected by its use;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that India opposed the global ban on manufacture, use, import and export of Endosulfan at the sixth meeting of Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC) at Stockholm Convention in Geneva recently;
- (d) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government of Kerala has requested Central Government to permanently ban use of Endosulfan; and
- (f) if so, details thereof and action proposed by Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD POWER): (a) and (b) Endosulfan is an insecticide registered in terms of provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 after examination of various aspects including safety to human beings and animals. Use of Endosulfan has been reviewed by several committees in the past, including the review conducted in 2004 against the backdrop of illness in certain villages of Kasargod