

**Restructuring of FCI**

697. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has set up a high-level committee to restructure Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the report of this committee is expected to be presented to Government; and

(d) whether interests of farmers and consumers would be kept in mind before taking a final decision to reorient the role of FCI, and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) to (d) Yes Sir. Government has constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Shanta Kumar, Hon'ble M.P, on 20.8.2014 to recommend on restructuring of FCI after considering various aspects of present structure and functional areas of the organization and consulting various stakeholders and general public including farmers and consumers. HLC will finalize its report and submit it to the Government within a period of 3(three) months. The HLC has, however, requested Government of India for an extension of two more months to finalize the report.

**Rise in prices of pulses**

698. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

SHRI D. RAJA :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that production of pulses for the Kharif season was lower than the estimates, resulting in the rise in prices of pulses;

(b) if so, the details of the production of pulses in the Kharif season and the change in the prices of pulses; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Targeted and estimated Production of Pulses in Kharif Season (in million tonnes) is as follows :

Target	Estimate*	Variation (%)
7.0	5.20	-25.7%

\*1st Advance Estimates for 2014-15

Source: Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC)

Except for Gram dal, prices of Tur, Urad, Moong and Masoor have shown increase during April to October, as shown below:

Variety	Monthly Average Prices (Rs/kg)		Variation (%)
	October, 2014	April, 2014	
Gram	46.2	48.7	-5.13
Tur	74.11	70.25	5.49
Urad	76.32	67.26	13.47
Moong	89.25	88.31	1.06
Masoor	69.81	62.57	11.57

Source: State/UT Food and Civil Supplies Deptts.

(c) The following important policy decisions have been taken recently to augment domestic availability of pulses and thereby moderate their prices:-

- Ban on export of Pulses until further orders with certain exemptions,
- Extension of Zero Import Duty on Pulses till 31.03.2015, except for Gram which has been extended till 31.12.2014, and
- Stock limits imposed for pulses extended till 30.9.2015.

#### **Implementation of National Food Security Act**

699. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Food Security Act has not been implemented in many of the States;

(b) if so, the States which have not implemented the Act yet, the reasons therefor and Government's reaction thereto; and