

Import of 'fake' dals

668. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards the criticism of a noted environment activist that Government is importing 'fake' dals and is sending the signal to farmers that it is not worth growing pulses; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) India imports pulses to meet gap between domestic production and demand. Major pulses imported by India are peas, chickpeas (gram), moong/urad, lentils, pigeon pea (tur). Pulses in India are imported by private sector and not by Government. However, in order to meet growing demand, the Government imported 5,000 ton pigeon pea (tur), recently. The Government promotes production of pulses through National Food Security Mission & other programmes. Government also announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for pulses every year to support farmers.

Production and import of pulses

669. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of pulses in the country in the years 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively;

(b) the quantity of import of pulses in the years 2012, 2013 and 2014; and

(c) the shortfall of pulses in 2015 and the quantity of imports in metric tonnes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The details of production of pulses in the country during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as under:

Year	Production of Pulses (Million Tonnes)		
	Kharif	Rabi	Total
2013-14	5.99	13.25	19.25
2014-15*	5.63	11.57	17.20
2015-16#	5.56	-	5.56

*4th advance estimates #1st advance estimates (kharif only)