

rendering uninterrupted services to the State of Andhra Pradesh from its Hyderabad Cell. In addition, NIC has set up a Chief Minister's Camp Office Cell at Vijayawada, decided to upgrade the existing NIC Cell at Vijayawada and also create a new cell at Amaravati, the upcoming capital of Andhra Pradesh. NIC has also deployed a team of five persons with effect from April, 2016, to strengthen the temporary NIC Secretariat Cell at Velagapudi, wherein a space of about 2500 square feet has been made available by the State Government.

As per existing policy, State Government provides space and other amenities for establishing NIC offices and operations. The request of NIC for allocation of space for upgradation of its existing cell at Vijayawada and creation of new cell at Amaravati has been sent to the State Government and their response is awaited.

On the request of the State Government, Standardisation, Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate has decided to set up a Seed Information Technology Centre at Amaravati for promotion of standards and testing services along with capacity building in the field of information technology.

No proposal has been received for Amaravati from the State to set up new offices or centres of National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

Price stabilization of pulses

*290. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of pulses imported from various countries during the last two years and at what actual price;
- (b) the details of steps taken so far by Government for price stabilization of pulses, indicating the amount spent thereon, during the last two years; and
- (c) the amount spent on subsidy and whether this subsidy actually benefited the farmers and the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The country imported 4584841 MT of pulses at the unit price of US \$ 608/PMT during 2014-15 and 5797699 MT of pulses at the unit price of US \$ 673/PMT during 2015-16. The details of country-wise import of pulses are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

- (b) The details of steps taken so far by Government for price stabilization of pulses

are given in Statement-II (*See* below). During the last two years *viz.* 2014-15 and 2015-16 Government allocated ₹ 50 crores and ₹ 660 crores respectively for price stabilization of pulses and other agri-horticultural commodities like Onions under the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme.

(c) During 2015-16, Government provided a subsidy of ₹ 10/- per kg to the States/agencies on the imported 5000 MT of Malawi Tur. During 2016-17, Government has so far allocated 29,932.34 MT of Tur and 8742.26 MT of Urad to the States/UTs and Central agencies at the subsidized rate of ₹ 66/- per kg and ₹ 82/- per kg respectively for retailing at ₹ 120/- per kg. Subsidy on the pulses allocated is tentatively estimated at ₹ 97.48 crores. As regards benefits, no such study has been conducted to assess the same.

Statement-I

Details of item-wise and country-wise import of pulses

(A) Item-wise import of pulses during last two years

(Values in million USD)

HS Code	Item Description	2014-15			2015-16		
		Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US\$/ Ton)	Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US\$/ Ton)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
07131000	Peas (Pisum Sativum) Dried and shelled	1951974	810	415	2245390	832	371
07132000	Chickpeas (Garbanzos) Dried and shelled	418877	217	518	1031487	672	652
07133100	Beans of the SPP Vignamungo, Hepper or Vigna Radiata, Wilczek Dried and shelled	622887	596	958	581603	685	1177
07133300	Kindney Beans Incl.	116898	114	972	111506	88	790

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	White Pea Teams Dried and Shelled						
07133990	Other Dried Leguminous vegetables	74621	57	764	57463	56	970
07134000	Lentils (Mosur), Dried and Shelled	816467	558	684	1260193	1017	807
07136000	Pigeon Peas (Cajanus Cajan)	575218	428	745	462713	507	1096
07139010	Other Dried and Shelled Leguminous Vegetables Split	5	0.01	2029	33585	31	925
07139090	Other of Hdg. 071390	7896	5	683	13759	14	1020
GRAND TOTAL		4584841	2786	608	5797699	3902	673

Note: Figures for 2015-16 are provisional.

Source: DGCIS

(B) Country-wise import of pulses during last two years

(Values in million USD)

Country	2014-15			2015-16		
	Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US \$/ Ton)	Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US \$/ Ton)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Afghanistan	4355.14	4.67	1071.67	15972.99	17.46	1093.34
Argentina	9055.73	6.50	717.83	20796.68	16.78	806.80
Australia	332654.88	188.41	566.39	912306.18	624.34	684.35
Benin				37.00	0.04	988.70
Bolivia				190.00	0.19	1016.64
Brazil	603.44	0.57	941.05	9953.00	5.92	594.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bulgaria				565.00	0.20	355.52
Canada	2195555.36	1074.57	489.43	2510913.71	1415.65	563.80
China P RP	71105.91	72.34	1017.41	68523.07	61.44	896.63
Costa Rica	110.00	0.13	1205.79			
Cote D' Ivoire	19.94	0.02	1118.59	210.79	0.22	1027.79
Djibouti				140.00	0.08	606.57
Egypt A RP				985.00	0.56	573.24
Estonia				8407.00	2.80	333.18
Ethiopia	31027.73	26.36	849.61	51120.83	36.07	705.56
France				120780.12	42.35	350.63
Indonesia	2661.00	3.26	1225.46	9477.26	11.55	1218.80
Iran	24.00	0.03	1128.92	1273.60	0.83	648.48
Kazakhstan				3537.00	1.92	543.89
Kenya	18082.40	17.12	946.50	52835.85	55.51	1050.63
Korea RP				1.00	0.00	574.00
Kyrghyzstan	284.00	0.39	1369.01	1085.00	1.31	1202.96
Latvia				1214.36	0.41	334.36
Lithuania				93260.70	30.72	329.37
Madagascar	1917.00	1.84	961.87	6410.00	5.85	913.11
Malawi	46015.00	33.42	726.36	61092.20	61.84	1012.17
Malaysia	312.00	0.31	1004.92	24.00	0.03	1218.83
Mexico	8190.00	8.92	1089.00	7479.00	5.03	672.54
Moldova	2317.00	0.88	378.54	251.00	0.09	369.96
Mozambique	97068.27	70.42	725.42	78867.93	89.42	1133.82
Myanmar	931328.91	803.00	862.21	722040.05	817.54	1132.27
Nepal	1047.03	1.30	1240.55			
Pakistan IR	2688.50	2.41	895.21	803.50	0.84	1048.59
Poland				154.00	0.22	1424.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Russia	236893.08	103.16	435.48	503490.34	217.57	432.13
Singapore	72.00	0.08	1062.26			
South Africa	48.00	0.06	1170.52	45.00	0.02	524.44
Sri Lanka DSR	738.00	0.63	858.85	43.00	0.05	1096.02
Sudan	17088.00	12.57	735.31	19430.45	19.95	1026.91
Tanzania REP	179992.89	138.83	771.29	136201.49	141.45	1038.50
Thailand	1157.00	1.34	1162.42	2516.05	3.21	1275.12
Turkey	2370.00	1.08	454.49	2141.64	1.14	531.22
UAE	167.18	0.12	733.79	27.00	0.03	976.04
USA	312227.51	168.38	539.27	259079.10	151.89	586.26
Uganda	3008.00	2.52	836.87	9538.35	10.12	1061.44
Ukraine	62067.98	25.40	409.31	89248.36	32.68	366.22
Uzbekistan	12473.40	14.99	1201.87	15182.07	16.84	1109.21
Venezuela				48.00	0.06	1265.65
Yemen Republic	115.00	0.08	709.54			
GRAND TOTAL	4584841.27	2786.11	607.68	5797698.67	3902.22	673.06

Note: Figures for 2015-16 are provisional.

Source:- DGCIS

Statement-II

Details of the steps taken to moderate the prices of pulses by the Government

1. Approved creation of buffer stock of pulses for effective market intervention and designated agencies have procured around 1.75 lakh MT of pulses as on 05.08.2016 through domestic procurement and imports. 5000 MT of Tur were also imported during 2015.
2. The Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mozambique for import of pulses Tur and other pulses on Government-to-Government (G2G) basis.
3. Released Tur and Urad from the buffer stock to States/UTs/Central agencies at subsidized rates for its retailing by them at not more than Rs 120/- per kg.

4. To boost production of pulses, largest increase in MSP (including bonus) raised for Kharif crop of 2016-17 season has been accorded to Tur, Urad and Moong.
5. Advisory were issued to State Governments to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
6. About 1.40 lakh tonnes of pulses seized from 14,612 raids and disposed off 1.28 lakh tonnes either by auction or other means permitted under EC Act, 1955
7. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned new contracts in Chana to dampen speculative activities in Chana and in respect of running contracts in Chana disallowed taking fresh positions to reduce speculative activities.
8. Export of all pulses is banned except Kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in Organic pulses and Lentils.
9. Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
10. Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
11. Set up a mechanism for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc. amongst the concerned agencies.
12. Strict vigilance by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to prevent importers from mis-using the facilities of Customs Bonded Warehouse facility.

Special purpose vehicle for development of railway network in Gujarat

*291. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an umbrella Special Purpose Vehicle has been formed for raising funds for development of railway network in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) the hindrances faced, if any, in implementation of the MoUs signed between Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. and Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board for implementation of Regional Railway System, Ahmedabad; and

(d) the options available to implement the projects and the time-frame to remove hindrances, if any, being faced in their implementation?