

- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff and senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.
- (a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.
 - (b) Monthly inspection by Manager (QC)
 - (c) Quarterly inspection by AGM (QC)
 - (d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs Squads.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
- (xi) Installation of CCTV Camera in the depots and barbed wires fencing of boundary walls, provision of street lights in the godowns/complexes and proper locking of the sheds.
- (xii) Security staff of FCI as well as other agencies like Home Guards and Special Police Officers are deployed for safety of stocks.
- (xiii) Deployment of State Armed Police has been done at vulnerable depots/godowns in the prone area.
- (xiv) Security Inspection as well as surprise checks of the depots are being conducted from time to time at various levels to detect and plug any security lapses.

Rise in prices of oilseeds and pulses

†1405. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to control the prices of pulses and oilseeds keeping in view the fast increase in their prices in the country; and
- (b) by when the prices of pulses and oilseeds would be made affordable to common man?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The requisite details are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The prices of pulses and oilseeds are affected by various factors *viz.* shortfall in domestic production due to adverse weather conditions, increase in demand because of rise in population, rise in per capita income and change in food habits among others, etc. The prices of major pulses except Chana dal have moderated over the month. Details of prices are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

The steps taken to control the prices of pulses and oilseeds

(A) Pulses

1. Approved creation of buffer stock of pulses for effective market intervention and designated agencies have procured around 1.75 lakh MT of pulses 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 ₹ 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 and 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 1.38 lakh tonnes of pulses seized from 14,612 raids and disposed off 1.27 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

(B) Edible Oils/Oilseeds

1. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.
2. MSP increased regularly for various rabi and kharif oil seeds.
3. Imports of oilseeds are under OGL with an import duty of 30 per cent since 1 January, 2003, which was reduced from 35 per cent.

Statement-II

Details of the prices of major pulses and Oilseeds

(A) Prices of Pulses and Major Edible oils

Items	All-India Daily Average Retail Price (₹/kg)								
	Price As on 27-07- 2016	1 Month Ago 27-06- 2016	3 Months Ago 27-04- 2016	6 Months Ago 27-01- 2016	1 Year Ago 27-07- 2015	% Variation over			
						1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
						7	8	9	10
Gram Dal	98.38	83.07	71.77	67.38	60.06	18.43	37.08	46.01	63.8
Tur/Arhar Dal	137.97	140.36	142.3	144.13	98.72	-1.7	-3.04	-4.27	39.76
Urad Dal	149.68	153.49	148.02	138.79	98.48	-2.48	1.12	7.85	51.99
Moong Dal	96	98.27	101.14	104.59	98.75	-2.31	-5.08	-8.21	-2.78
Masoor Dal	86.24	84.55	82.82	82.91	82.98	2	4.13	4.02	3.93
Groundnut Oil (Packed)	134.58	133.17	126.91	122.8	121.18	1.06	6.04	9.59	11.06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Mustard Oil (Packed)	109.73	108.39	107.14	111.27	102.22	1.24	2.42	-1.38	7.35
Vanaspati (Packed)	74.87	74.44	72.76	71.62	74.13	0.58	2.9	4.54	1
Soya Oil (Packed)	82.99	81.84	83.41	82.04	82.75	1.41	-0.5	1.16	0.29
Sunflower Oil (Packed)	95.67	97.16	96.78	97.66	92.81	-1.53	-1.15	-2.04	3.08
Palm Oil (Packed)	68.51	68.81	69.83	63.43	65.44	-0.44	-1.89	8.01	4.69

Source: States/UTs Civil Supplies Deptts.

(B) Prices of Major Oilseeds

Oilseeds	Prices of Major Oilseeds in ₹/MT			Variation in %	
	22nd July, 2016	22nd June, 2016	Average July, 2015	1 month	1 year
	Groundnut	55,500	53,500	50,481	3.74
Soyabean	37,500	38,000	33,856	-1.32	10.76
Rapeseed/Mustard	51,650	48,200	45,775	7.16	12.83
Sunflower	57,000	56,000	35,731	1.79	59.53

Source: The Solvent Extractors' Association of India

Sale of crops by farmers below the MSP

†1406. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers have to sell their wheat below the Minimum Support Price (MSP) because Government purchase of wheat does not remain systematic in several States during the season of crop arrival, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that farmers have to sell pulses and oilseeds crops below the MSP due to lack of guarantee of purchase from Government, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.