

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**  
**Department of Consumer Affairs**

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2100**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2021**

**AVAILABILITY OF PULSES IN THE MARKET**

2100 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether Government has chalked out any plan for the imposition of stock restrictions in order to ensure availability of pulses in the market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to strengthen the daily price monitoring system and getting accurate feedback on how wholesale, retail or even mandi prices are behaving, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE**  
**CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b) : Vide S.O. No.2871(E) dated 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021, stock limits have been imposed on Tur, Masoor, Urad and Chana pulses for a period up to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 for all States and Union Territories as follows:

- Wholesaler: 500 MT (subject to condition that there should not be more than 200 MT of one variety)
- Retailer: 5 MT
- Millers: Stock limits will be last 6 months production or 50% of annual installed capacity, whichever is higher.

(c) & (d) : Under the Price Monitoring Scheme, daily reports on retail and wholesale prices of the 22 essential food commodities are obtained from Price Monitoring Centres, set up by State Governments with financial assistance from the Department of Consumer Affairs. In order to strengthen the system and get accurate reports, a Mobile App for price reporting was made operational from January 1, 2021. Price data reported through the Mobile App are geo-tagged to ensure that daily prices are reported from the actual market/shop locations. The App also has inbuilt features for uploading the daily prices of the right variety, and for automatically calculating the average of the three retail prices reported from three different markets. Further, in order to improve the representativeness of the price data, the number of price reporting centres have been increased from 114 in April 2020 to 157 in 2021 (till date). The prices reported on the portal of this Department by these centres are used for monitoring the wholesale and retail prices of essential food items including pulses, on a daily basis.

The Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare is implementing the Marketing Research and Information Network sub-scheme of the Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing, covering 3356 wholesale mandies and more than 300 commodities across 28 states and 5 UTs. Daily mandi arrivals and minimum, maximum and modal prices are reported by respective APMC markets in the central Agmarknet portal(<http://agmarknet.gov.in>). The prices reported on the portal are used in monitoring the supply and wholesale mandi prices of essential commodities including pulses.