

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3669  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000  
INCREASE IN THE PRICES OF DAL  
AVTAR SINGH BHADANA

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether inspite of best efforts to increase the production of dal, the prices of dal, particularly arhar, urad, mung are going upwards;
- (b) if so, the details regarding the rates of such dals at present; and
- (c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Union Government to meet the situation?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b): The production of pulses is estimated to be 13.06 million tonnes in 1999-2000, compared to the production of 14.80 million tonnes in 1998-99 due to adverse agro-climatic conditions. The wholesale price index number of pulses for the week ending 29th July 2000, shows a weekly fall of 0.6 per cent; monthly rise of 0.5 per cent and annual rise of 10.9 per cent. The position with regard to individual pulses is as under (provisional):

Pulses Variations in Wholesale Price Index

Over a Week Over a Month Over a Year

|       |      |      |       |
|-------|------|------|-------|
| Arhar | -2.0 | -5.5 | -12.9 |
| Urad  | -0.5 | 3.0  | 38.7  |
| Moong | -0.2 | -1.4 | 3.4   |

(c): The Government is implementing the National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) for increasing the production of pulses in the country. The Government, at times, imports pulses to meet the shortage in supply over demand. The Government imported 203.99 thousand tonnes of pulses during 1999-2000.