

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:908
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
IMPORT OF PULSES
KAMAL NATH

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

- (a) whether the Government have imported pulses in the country during the past few years;
- (b) if so, the countries from which pulses are imported and under what terms and conditions;
- (c) whether the irregularities in the import of pulses have come to the notice of the Government; and
- (d) if so, the facts thereof and further corrective steps Government have taken/proposed to take in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI S L MAHARIA)

- (a) & (b): The Government had imported on lakh tonnes of pulses from Myanmar and Australia during 1999-2000 through the State Trading Corporation to augment availability and contain the price rise of pulses in the country.
- (c) & (d): There were no irregularities in the import of pulses. The imported pulses could not be disposed-off by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) of India Limited in time due to changed market conditions in the country resulting in losses. With the liberalisation of trade, the imports of essential commodities have been placed under OGL.