

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:425
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
TECHNOLOGY MISSION ON OILSEEDS AND PULSES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses started failing in its task after showing better results in production and productivity upto 1998-1999;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the failure of this Technology Mission;
- (c) the projected production and productivity of edible oil and pulses and the projected imports during 2010-11 and 2015-16; and
- (d) the steps contemplated to achieve self sufficiency in this sphere and to decrease the burden of import?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 425 DUE FOR REPLY ON 15TH MAY, 2006.

(a)&(b): The Technology Mission on Oilseeds was launched in May, 1986. Buoyed by the success of the Technology Mission on Oilseeds, pulses were also brought into its ambit in 1990.

The production & productivity of oilseeds in the country during 1985-86, 1998-99, 2003- 04, 2004-05 & 2005-06 are as under:-

(Production in lakh Tonnes)

(Productivity in Kg./ha).

Year Production Productivity

1985-86	108.30	570
1998-99	247.50	944
2003-04	251.86	1064
2004-05	243.53	885
2005-06#	266.97	979

#llrd Advance Estimates

The production & productivity of pulses in the country during 1989-90, 1998-99, 2003- 04, 2004-05 & 2005-06 are as under:-

(Production in lakh Tonnes)

(Productivity in Kg./ha.)

Year Production Productivity

1989-90	128.60	549
1998-99	149.10	634
2003-04	149.05	635
2004-05	131.29	577
2005-06\$	139.20	590

\$ IIIrd Advance Estimates

Oilseeds & Pulses are grown mainly on marginal and sub-marginal land under rainfed conditions with low input usage. Less than 25% of the area under oilseeds and 15% under the pulses are irrigated, exposing most oilseeds & pulses production to weather related yield risks. Consequently, oilseeds & pulses production in India is characterized by fluctuating production and low yield. Despite concerted efforts, no major breakthrough in pulses production technology and improvement of high yielding germ plasm has been possible because of inherent genetic problems and narrow adaptability in the evolved varieties of pulses.

The Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses (TMOP) has been discontinued from 2003-04. However, a scheme by the name Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm & Maize (ISOPOM) for increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds & pulses and to achieve self-sufficiency is being implemented by Government of India w.e.f. 1st April, 2004 in 14 major oilseeds & pulses producing States.

(c) The projected production and productivity of oilseeds/edible oil, pulses and the projected imports for 2010-11 and 2015-16 have not been worked out.

(d) With a view to increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds & pulses and to achieve self-sufficiency, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm & Maize (ISOPOM) w.e.f. 1st of April, 2004 in 14 major oilseeds & pulses producing states. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided for critical inputs viz. purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of minikits, infrastructure development, distribution of Plant Protection Chemicals, Plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets, farmers training, pipes for carrying water from water source to the field, officers training and publicity, etc. in order to encourage the farmers to undertake oilseeds and pulses cultivation on a large scale. Besides, to disseminate information on improved production technologies generated by research system in the country amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through ICAR.

In order to provide remunerative prices to the farmers, Government of India announces Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for oilseeds & pulses every year. The MSPs for oilseeds & pulses have been enhanced over the years to encourage farmers to grow these crops. In the event of market prices ruling below MSP, procurement operations are undertaken and these commodities are purchased from farmers at MSP.