

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:716  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007  
REDUCTION IN PRICES OF MAIZE  
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to reduce the prices of maize to protect poultry sector; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of maize for 2006-07 was fixed at Rs.540 per quintal on 27.07.2006. There is no proposal to reduce the same. Keeping in view the high price of maize, Government has decided to allow imports of maize at Nil customs duty till 31.12.2007. However, to increase the production and availability of Maize the Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM). The scheme is being implemented in 15 States for maize. Under the scheme, assistance is provided to farmers for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of mini kits, infrastructure development, plant protection chemicals and equipments, weedicides, gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria etc.