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TRENDS OF PULSES PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND IMPORT SCENARIO IN INDIA

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Historically, India is the largest producer, consumer and importer of pulses. India accounts for 25 percent of world's pulses production, consumes 27 percent and imports around 14 percent of its pulses requirement. As per the fourth advance estimates for 2016-17, the production of pulses is projected to be 17.83 million tonnes. Among various pulse crops, chickpea dominates with over 40 percent share of total pulse production followed by Pigeon pea (14%), Moong bean (10%) Urd bean (30%) and other legumes (19%). According to 2016 figures, Madhya Pradesh is India's largest pulse producing State with 26% share in overall production. For majority of vegetarian population in India, pulses are the major source of protein. Although it is the world's largest pulses producer, there is still a huge shortage of pulses and also the prices were not affordable to a large section of consumers. An immediate need is the development and dissemination of low-cost technologies in pulses production, so that pulses can be affordable to the common man. Analyses status of pulse crop in India as whole and Madhya Pradesh in particular is that the policy decision, technology generation and dissemination gap are the issues to be addressed. Key words: Pulse production, Shortage of pulse production and technology generation.