



# India to Import Tur Dal from Mozambique

[Source: IE](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, India has restarted the import of **Tur dal (Pigeon pea)** from Mozambique after it was disrupted by an “anti-India” group.

## What is the Current State of Pulses Import in India?

- India imported **4.65 million metric tons** of [pulses](#) in the fiscal year 2023-24 (up from 2.53 million tons in 2022-23), the highest since 2018-19.
  - In value terms, imports of pulses **jumped 93%** to USD 3.75 billion.
- In 2023-24, India imported 7.71 lakh tons of Tur/Pigeon pea, with 2.64 lakh tons (one-third) from **Mozambique**. **Malawi** is also a major supplier of tur to India.
  - **Mozambique** has an MoU with India to supply **2 lakh tons of Tur/Pigeon peas until 2025-26**, providing assured market access. Similarly, an **MoU with Malawi** ensures an **annual supply of 0.50 lakh tons to India**.
- **Red lentil** imports, particularly from **Canada**, doubled to 1.2 million tons.
- **Yellow peas** are imported from **Russia and Turkey**.
- The South Asian nations including India, usually import pulses from **Canada, Myanmar, Australia, Mozambique, and Tanzania**.

## What is the Status of Pulse Production in India?

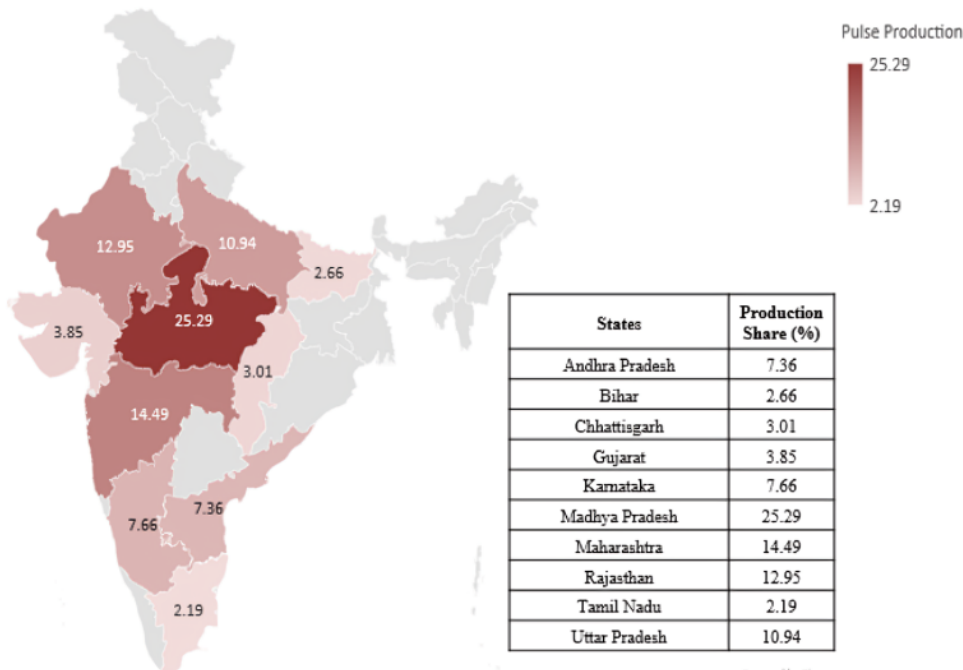
- India is the **largest producer** (25% of global production), **consumer** (27% of world consumption) and **importer (14%)** of pulses in the world.
- Pulses account for around **20% of the area under food grains** and contribute around **7-10% of the total food grain production** in the country.
- **Gram is the most dominant pulse** having a share of **around 40%** in the total production followed by **Tur/Arhar at 15 to 20%** and **Urad/Black Matpe and Moong** at around **8-10 %** each.
- Though pulses are grown in both Kharif and Rabi seasons, **Rabi pulses** contribute more than **60%** of the total production.
- The top 5 pulses-producing states are **Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka**.

## What are Key Facts About Tur dal (Pigeon Pea)?

- It is a vital **legume crop** and **protein source** in India.
- It thrives in **tropical and semi-arid regions**.
- **Climatic Requirements:**
  - **Rainfall:** Needs **600-650 mm annually**, with moist conditions early on and dry conditions during flowering and pod development.
  - **Temperature:** Grows best at **26°C to 30°C** in the rainy season and 17°C to 22°C post-rainy season.

- **Soil:** Prefers **sandy loam or loam**, though it can adapt to various soil types.
- It is sensitive to **low radiation** during pod development, leading to poor pod formation if flowering occurs in monsoon or cloudy conditions.
- **Key diseases** include **Wilt, Sterility Mosaic Disease, Phytophthora Blight, Alternaria Blight, and Powdery Mildew.**
- **Top Producer States (2019):** Karnataka, Maharashtra, UP

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## Government Initiatives to Boost Pulses Production in India

- **Policy Support:** The policy prescription for ensuring reasonable prices to the farmers largely centres around procuring the pulses by providing [Minimum Support Prices \(MSP\)](#) to the farmers through [National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India \(NAFED\)](#) and more recently through [Small Farmers Agri Consortium \(SFAC\)](#).
- [National Food Security Mission \(NFSM\)-Pulses.](#)
- [ICAR's Role in Research and Variety Development](#)
- [Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan \(PM-AASHA\) Scheme](#)

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims

**Q. With reference to pulse production in India, consider the following statements: (2020)**

1. Black gram can be cultivated as both kharif and rabi crop.
2. Green-gram alone accounts for nearly half of pulse production.
3. In the last three decades, while the production of kharif pulses has increased, the production of rabi pulses has decreased.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Ans: A**

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