

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:187

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2001

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO DROUGHT STRICKEN STATES

DADICHILUKA VEERA GOURI SANKARA RAO

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

(a) whether certain States like Andhra Pradesh and Punjab are facing problems arising out of excess foodgrains and some States like Chhatisgarh and Orissa are facing shortage of foodgrains causing starvation deaths; and

(b) if so, the details of the remedial steps initiated by the Union Government for supply of foodgrains to these States and also ensure that such a situation does not recur in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a) & (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 187 FOR ANSWER IN LOK SABHA ON 09.03.2001.

(a) & (b) : Bumper production in States like Punjab and Andhra Pradesh has led to procurement far in excess of the buffer norms resulting in problems like shortage of storage space in these States.

Adequate stocks are maintained by the Food Corporation of India for meeting the requirements of the Public Distribution System, welfare schemes, etc. Special allocations are also made for relief in cases of natural calamities like drought, earthquake, flood, etc. According to available information, there has been no starvation death in any State. However, Chhatisgarh and Orissa have been affected by drought. 1,60,000 tonnes of rice has been allotted to Chhatisgarh free of cost for organising various employment generation programmes. Similarly, one lakh tonnes of rice has been allotted to Orissa free of cost for organising employment generation programmes in the drought affected areas. Further, 96,600 tonnes of rice has been allotted to Chhatisgarh at BPL rate for the Food for Work Programme in the drought affected areas.