

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2921

ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007

ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION FOR FESTIVALS

Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru

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

- (a) whether there is any policy for allocation of additional quota of foodgrains and other essential commodities to the States for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) during the festival season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received requests for allocation of additional quota under PDS in view of the rising prices and the ensuing festival season;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the time by which the additional quota is likely to be released?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a),(b),(c),(d) & (e): The commodity-wise details are as follows:

(i) **FOODGRAINS:** Besides Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Government makes additional allocations for festivals, natural calamities etc. at Economic Cost or Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic) rates, whichever is less.

Requests have been received for additional allocation under TPDS from several States, details of which are given in Annex-I. Keeping in view the requests received from the States/ UTs., from time to time, to check the prices of foodgrains in the open market and for festivals, the Government has made adhoc/additional allocations of wheat for the APL category under TPDS, per month from September, 2006 to July, 2007 as per the details given in Annex-II

Requests for release of additional rice or wheat are considered as and when received.

(ii) **LEVY SUGAR:** A quantity of 1.00 lakh tons of levy Sugar per annum is earmarked for allotment as fixed annual festival quota to the States, which is allotted to the State Governments/UTs. in the months of their choice as per the schedule. The statement showing state-wise fixed annual festival quota is given at Annex-III.

(iii) **KEROSENE:** Allocation of PDS kerosene is made by the Government to different States/ Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS). Further distribution within the States/UTs through their PDS network is done by the concerned State/UT Governments. Additional allocation is made to meet the emergent requirement on account of natural calamities such as flood, draught, earthquake, etc. However, no additional allocation is made for festival seasons. No request for additional allocation of PDS Kerosene for festival seasons has been received from any State/UT.