

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3152

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010

CAMPAIGN AGAINST HOARDING

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Chaudhary Shri Jayant;Choudhry Smt. Shruti;Dome Dr. Ram Chandra;Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Joshi Shri Mahesh;Ram Shri Purnmasi;Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched any campaign against the hoarders and has also suggested the States to undertake such an operation in view of price rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases registered during the said campaign, State-wise;
- (d) the action taken against the hoarders; and
- (e) the details of cases registered, persons arrested and convicted under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) to (e): The enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 lies with the State Governments/ Union Territories. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been delegated powers to take necessary action under the provisions of both `The Essential Commodities Act, 1955` and `The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980`, to prevent hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been repeatedly requested to strictly enforce both the Acts and also monitor enforcement of these Acts.

A Conference of Chief Ministers was also convened on 06-02-2010 by this-Department wherein this aspect was reiterated to the State Governments.

Details of the raids conducted, persons arrested, persons convicted etc. for violation of rules under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, during the year 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 (upto February, 2010) as reported by State Governments/UT Administrations are at Annexure I to IV.

Details of detention orders issued under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 as reported to the Central Government by the State Governments/UT Administrations during the year 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 (upto February, 2010) are given below:-

Name of the State 2007 2008 2009 2010 (Upto Feb.2010)

Gujarat	50	16	31	14
Tamil Nadu	65	141	112	18
Orissa	-	01	02	-
Maharashtra	01	-	02	-
Madhya Pradesh	03	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	-	04	-	-
Total	119	162	147	32