

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1473
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010
ALLOCATION FOR ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS
Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

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

- (a) whether the allocation of foodgrains for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is less in comparison to its requirement leading to frequent food crisis in the Islands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the UT Administration has requested the Government for ensuring adequate supply of foodgrains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Presently, the Union Territory (UT) of Andaman & Nicobar Islands is being allocated full quantity of foodgrains @35 kg per family per month for all the accepted number of 0.81 lakh families in the UT as per 1993-94 poverty estimates and March 2000 population estimates.

The UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands requested to enhance the allocation of foodgrains on the basis of higher number of ration cards issued by the Island Administration. Since the present allocations are made on the basis of the criteria mentioned above, the request of the UT Administration could not be accepted. However, in order to enhance the availability/supply of foodgrains, the Government has made following additional allocations to the UT Administration:-

A quantity of 1144 tons of rice and 476 tons of wheat at MSP based price for January and February, 2010 for all categories of families under TPDS on 20.1.2010 with lifting period upto 25.5.2010.

799 tons of rice and 578 tons of wheat as special adhoc allocation for all accepted number of families (AAY, BPL & APL) under TPDS on 19.5.2010 at a subsidized price of Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice. The UT Administration is to lift the allocated quantities latest by 20th November 2010.

7200 tons of rice at economic cost in August, 2009 on the request of the UT Administration.

1596 tons of wheat and 1300 tons of rice released under OMSS for distribution to retail consumers during October, 2009 to March, 2010. The validity period for lifting the unlifted quantities out of this allocation has been extended upto September 2010.