

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1009
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011
IMPLEMENTATION OF FOOD SECURITY
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has intensified the efforts to arrange necessary foodgrains and meetings are being held with the States to strengthen Public Distribution System for ensuring implementation of the proposed food security act;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether instructions have been issued to the States during the recently concluded meetings of the Ministers of Food of Northern States in Delhi on price control for increasing the yield of foodgrains and strengthening the foodgrains storage system;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government to streamline foodgrain storage, check foodgrain pilferage and corruption in the PDS; and
- (e) the assistance provided by the Union Government for the purpose during the last one year and the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (e) Meetings were held with Ministers and Secretaries in-charge of Food/Public Distribution/Consumer Affairs of States/UTs, including those of Northern States, during February 2011 to discuss various issues such as procurement operations, allocations and offtake under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), availability of sugar, augmentation of storage capacity, implementation of Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities, reforms in TPDS, etc.

Government has provided assistance of Rs. 16.30 crore and Rs. 1.57 crore in 2009-10 and 2010-11 (upto January 2011) respectively towards Computerization of TPDS, installation of Global Position System (GPS) Sets, etc. for checking foodgrain pilferage and corruption in TPDS.