

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:161

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2011

OFFTAKE UNDER PDS

M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

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

- (a) whether some States have been unable to lift the assigned quota of foodgrains allocated to them for distribution under various welfare schemes including Public Distribution System (PDS)/Targeted Public Distribution System/Antyodaya Anna Yojana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the quota allotted and lifted by various States, Statewise and category-wise during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether complaints regarding delay in release of foodgrains have been received;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken to ensure timely release of foodgrains and increase offtake under PDS

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 161 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 8.3.2011 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) & (b): The overall offtake against normal allocation of foodgrains under TPDS has been 98.2% for Below Poverty Line (BPL), 94.9% for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and 83.1% for Above Poverty line (APL) families during April-December, 2010. Government has also made special adhoc additional allocations of foodgrains in January, May and September 2010 and in January 2011. The offtake against the additional allocations made in January, May and September 2010 has been in the range of 26% to 53%. In the case of allocations made in January 2011, States/UTs have been allowed time to lift upto June 2011. The offtake of foodgrains under other welfare schemes during 2010-11 (upto December 2010) has been 54%.

State-wise details of allocations and offtake of foodgrains under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes during the last three years and current year and special adhoc additional allocations made during 2009-10 and 2010-11 are at Annex - I to III. Lower offtake is mainly in the additional allocations made by the Government due to problems in absorption of the additional allocations, additional subsidy being borne by some States, short placement of stocks at some depots of FCI, among others.

(c) to (e): There have been representations from some States/UTs particularly from North Eastern States regarding delay in release of allocated foodgrains due to short placement of stocks in FCI depots. FCI has been facing problems in timely movement of foodgrains to these States on account of inadequate placement of rail rakes.

Several measures have been taken to increase and improve the offtake of allocations made under TPDS. The annual allocations of foodgrains are made to States/UTs at the beginning of the year. States/ UTs are allowed to lift allocated foodgrains in advance. Additional allocations have been made based on the availability of stocks in Central Pool and on the requests of State Governments. Requests from States/ UTs for extension of validity period are also considered expeditiously. The issue of providing adequate rail rakes has also been taken up with Railways from time to time.

Government of India has also been regularly reviewing the implementation of TPDS functioning including lifting of foodgrains by States/UTs by holding Conferences, review meetings and issuing advisories to States/ UTs.