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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:289 ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011 INCREASE IN ALLOCATION

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received requests from some State Governments including Kerala and Tamil Nadu to increase their quota of allocation for Above Poverty Line and Below Poverty Line categories under the Public Distribution System; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Requests have been received in recent past from some States/Union Territories(UTs), including Kerala and Tamil Nadu for increase in Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) allocations.

Government has been making allocation of foodgrains as per norms to BPL including Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) families @35kg per family per month to all States/UTs. Keeping in view the requests received and the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool, Government has made additional allocation of 50 lakh tons of rice and wheat in May 2011 to all States/UTs for BPL families at BPL prices. The allocation for APL families are made based on availability of foodgrains and past offtake by States/UTs. Accordingly, the APL allocation, till May 2011 was 10kg to 35 kg per family/month in different States/UTs. With effect from June 2011, the APL allocation has been increased to a minimum of 15kg per family per month in 20 States/UTs and 35kg per family per month in 4 North Eastern States, Sikkim and two hill States- Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand where the allocation was less than that quantity.