

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1605

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011

IMPROVEMENT IN OFFTAKE OF FOODGRAINS

Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Siricilla Shri Rajaiah;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

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

- (a) whether the off take of foodgrains by the State from the Central allocation including ad-hoc allocation has been poor during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has urged the State Governments to improve the offtake; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States thereto?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The offtake was 89% during 2008-09 and 2009-10 and 92% and 94 % respectively during 2010-11 and the first three months of the current year 2011-12, in the case of normal allocations of rice and wheat under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Against the additional allocations made during 2009-10 and 2010-11 to States/Union Territories (UTs), the offtake has been around 25.6% and 50.2% respectively. Offtake against additional BPL allocations made during current year on 16.5.2011 is 3.3% upto 26.7.2011. The allocations for the current year are valid till March 2012. Statements showing allocation and offtake of foodgrains under normal and Special adhoc additional allocations made under TPDS during the above period are at Annex I and II.

The lower offtake in some States is attributable to State's inability to absorb additional allocations due to additional subsidy being borne by them on account of further subsidization, short placement of stocks at some FCI depots due to movement bottlenecks, among others.

(c) & (d): The Government has been impressing upon States/UTs to improve the lifting against the special allocations made to them through letters at different levels including to the Chief Ministers of the States and Administrators of the UTs. Review meetings have also been held with States/UTs in which the States/UTs have been urged to lift the allocations in full for distribution to the targeted beneficiaries. This has resulted in improvement in the offtake and issue of additional allocations to States who have lifted their initial allocations and demanded more.