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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2496 ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011 REDUCED ALLOCATION OF FOODGRAINS Bais Shri Ramesh;Kora Shri Madhu ;Mahato Shri Narahari;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Pakkirappa Shri S.;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath;Shantha J.

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

(a) whether the Government has reduced the allocation of foodgrains for the Above Poverty Line families in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the allocation, offtake and cut in quota during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the States have requested for restoration and/or increase in their allocation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), allocations of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) category were made in larger quantities till 2005-06 due to surplus stocks available in the Central Pool and lower offtake. However, since 2006-07, taking into account the availability of stocks in the Central Pool, allocations of foodgrains to States/Union Territories (UTs) for APL families were rationalized on the basis of past offtake. Allocation of foodgrains for APL families was being made between 10 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs till May 2011.

Requests have been received from States/UTs for restoration/enhancement/ additional allocation of foodgrains. Considering the availability of surplus stocks in the Central Pool and requests received from the States for additional allocations under APL, the Government has enhanced the APL allocation to 20 States/ UTs from June 2011 to ensure a minimum monthly allocation of 15 kg per family. In 4 North Eastern States, Sikkim and two hill States of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, the monthly allocation which was less than 35kg per family has been increased to 35 kg from June 2011. A similar increase in allocation was also made in August 2010 to these States/UTs for a period of six months.

The Government has also made following Special adhoc additional allocations during 2009-10 and 2010-11:

i. 36.08 lakh tons of foodgrains to all States/UTs allocated in January 2010, at MSP based/derived prices for wheat and rice for distribution to all families including APL families, under TPDS.

ii. 30.66 lakh tons in May 2010 for all families including APL families and 25.00 lakh tons of foodgrains in January 2011 for APL families to all States/ UTs at the price of Rs. 8.45/kg for wheat and Rs.11.85/kg for rice.

State-wise details of the allocations and offtake of foodgrains (rice and wheat) during 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and the current year 2011-12 are at Annex-I & II.