GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4462 ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009 PER CAPITA AVAILABILITY OF FOODGRAINS Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the per capita availability of wheat, rice and other foodgrains during each of the last three years, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (b) whether per capita availability of these foodgrains has declined during the said period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including Karnataka, State-wise and crop-wise;
- (d) the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): There have been fluctuations in per capita availability of wheat, rice and foodgrains mainly due to fluctuations in production caused by variations in weather conditions. The net per capita availability of wheat, rice and foodgrains for the period 2006-08 are given below:

(grams per day)

Year Wheat Rice Foodgrains

2006 154.3 198.0 445.3

2007 157.8 194.0 442.8

2008 145.1 175.4 436.6
(Prov.)

Statewise data on per capita availability of foodgrains is not maintained.

(e): To increase the production and thereby the availability of foodgrains Government implements a number of programmes/schemes. National Food Security Mission launched in 2007-08, aims to increase the production of rice by 10 million tons, wheat by 8 million tons and pulses by 2 million tons by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011-2012). Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana launched in 2007-08 seeks to push up the investment in agriculture to improve productivity and reduce yield gaps across the country. The Government also provides good quality seeds, disease free planting material, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest, development of agricultural market infrastructure. Through the extension activities farmers are educated to adopt modern agricultural practices. Given the production and availability in the country, appropriate measures are taken by the Government which include review of imports.