

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4588
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011
LIFTING OF QUOTA
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently decided that the States which do not lift their special allocation of foodgrains will have their quota cancelled;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has ascertained the exact reasons behind the failure of the States to lift their quota of foodgrains;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether most of the States are unable to store the foodgrains and have urged the Union Government to extend them storage facilities; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): Government has decided to consider more allocation to States/UTs who lift the additional allocations made to them and demand more, out of unlifted savings of adhoc additional allocations made in January 2011 for Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families.

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.

The record procurement of rice and wheat during the last three years and the current year and the consequent surplus stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool have resulted in covered storage gap. Government has formulated a scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central and State Warehousing Corporations to augment storage capacity. Consequent to assessment of additional storage needs under the scheme based on overall procurement/consumption and the storage needs of procuring/consuming areas and criteria laid down in the scheme, State-wise capacity requirement and locations have been identified. Under the scheme, capacity of about 152.97 lakh MTs is to be created in 19 States under the scheme through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations.