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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1246
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011
USE OF FOODGRAINS STOCKS TO CHECK INFLATION
Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any suggestions/recommendations to utilise its foodgrain stocks for cushioning the effect of inflation; and
- (b) 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) & (b): In view of sufficient stocks available in the Central Pool and requests received from States and Union Territories for additional allocation of food grains and to keep a check on open market prices of rice and wheat, allocation of food grains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been increased over the last two years. As compared to an allocation of 560.22 lakh MTs of rice and wheat under TPDS and other welfare schemes (OWS) during 2009-10, during 2010-11, the Government made an allocation of 632.46 lakh MTs. In the current year, 612.07 lakh MTs of rice and wheat have been allocated so far. Thus, substantial additional quantity of food grains has been released under TPDS and OWS at subsidized prices for distribution among the targeted beneficiaries.