

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3080

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011

CREATION OF FOOD GRAIN STOCKS TO CHECK PRICE RISE

Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

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

- (a) whether the country recently faced the crisis of shortage of essential commodities including foodgrains and rise in their prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Union Government has urged the States to create surplus stocks to meet future crisis and check prices; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) No Madam. There was no shortage of major food grains viz. rice and wheat. Prices of rice and wheat were largely stable. As India imports 15% of its requirement in case of pulses and more than 50% its requirement in case of edible oils, prices of pulses and edible oils are influenced by the volatility in international prices.

(b) Details of steps taken by the Government are given in Annexure I.

(c)&(d) Union Government has allowed States/UTs to advance lift at least 3 months of TPDS requirement to maintain sufficient stocks of foodgrains in the State. They were asked in November, 2010 to send their requirement for such advance lifting. However, no State has availed of this facility. Subsequently the States/UTs have been allowed to advance lift and distribute upto six months of ration.