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

STARRED QUESTION NO:70 ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012 DAMAGED FOODGRAINS Patel Shri Bal Kumar

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

(a) whether the Government auctioned the damaged rice and wheat as cattle feed in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total quantity of damaged foodgrains auctioned and the revenue earned therefrom during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has any mechanism to ascertain the actual end use of the foodgrains so auctioned;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for proper utilisation of the foodgrains under various Welfare Schemes before they get damaged?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 70 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.08.2012 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a)& (b): Yes, Madam. Food Corporation of India (FCI) sells damaged wheat and rice as different feed categories through auction from time to time. A statement showing the quantity of damaged foodgrains auctioned and the revenue earned during last three years is at Annex-I.

(c) & (d): Damaged foodgrains are sold by FCI only to registered bonafied direct users and manufacturers of animal / cattle feed. Such bonafied users and manufacturers of animal / cattle feed are registered with FCI for a period of two years at a time, after verification of their manufacturing plants by officers of FCI.

(e): Stocks available in the central pool are used for making allocations for Targeted Public Distribution System(TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes(OWS). During the year 2011-12, 244.12 lakh tonnes of wheat and 294.2 lakh tonnes of rice were allotted for TPDS and OWS. For the year 2012-13, 270.63 lakh tonnes of wheat and 328.28 lakh tonnes of rice have been allocated for TPDS and OWS. The Government takes necessary steps to safely store the foodgrains after procurement. Details of steps taken to ensure safe storage and preservation of foodgrains are at Annex - II.