

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3719
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) the number of commodities included in the essential commodities list under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 at present;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to review the Act in view of the present economic liberalisation era;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the said review is proposed to be undertaken?

Answer

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

(a): The commodities declared as essential commodities under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and as specified in the Schedule to the Act, are as under:

- (1) Drugs;
- (2) Fertilizer, whether inorganic, organic or mixed;
- (3) Foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils;
- (4) Hank yarn made wholly from cotton;
- (5) Petroleum and petroleum products;
- (6) Raw jute and jute textile;
- (7) (i) seeds of food-crops and seeds of fruits and vegetables; (ii) seeds of cattle fodder; and (iii) jute seeds, (iv) cotton seed

(b) to (d): A Working Group on Consumer Affairs had been constituted under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister, Gujarat to look into the issues relating to Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Chief Minister, Gujarat, has submitted the Report of the Working Group to the Prime Minister on 2nd March, 2011.