

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4052

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2012

ALLOCATION OF FOODGRAINS

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Barq Shri Shafiqur Rahman;Bhaiya Shri Shivraj;Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan;M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Pakkirappa Shri S.;Patel Shri Deoraj Singh;Patle Kamla Devi ;Rajendran Shri C.;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether any irregularities have been reported in the allocation of various items to the States under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto indicating the number of ration card holders, total entitlement, allocation and offtake of the said items including foodgrains during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise, category-wise and item-wise;
- (c) the details of the foodgrains and other items lying unutilised with the Government due to non-lifting by the States along with the steps being taken to utilise the same;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review/revise the procurement and distribution system to ensure food/nutrition security to all the citizens;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the requests for increasing the number of beneficiaries and allocation of various items, received from each State along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) : There have been no reports of irregularity in allocation of various items to the States under Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The details of allocation and offtake of rice & wheat and kerosene under TPDS during last three years and current year is at Annex-I to VII. A statement indicating state-wise and category-wise number of ration cards issued by the States/UTs is at Annex-VIII.
- (c): As on 1st December, 2012, a quantity of 306.07 lakh tons of rice and 376.52 lakh tons of wheat is lying in the Central Pool. Considering the surplus stock in the Central Pool, Government is making additional allocation of foodgrains to the States/UTs over and above the normal TPDS allocation to meet their additional requirement and also to offload the surplus stocks.
- (d) & (e): There is no proposal to review/revise the procurement policy. Government of India regularly reviews and issues instructions to the States/UTs to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increasing transparency in functioning of TPDS, adopting revised Model Citizen's Charter and improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations. Government of India has requested all States/UTs to take up end-to-end computerization of TPDS in a time-bound manner to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the TPDS.
- (f): Requests have been received for increasing the number of beneficiaries and allocation of foodgrains and sugar from various States/UTs like Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Uttarakhand, etc. Considering the surplus stocks in the central pool and based on the requests received from States/UTs, Government has been making additional allocation of foodgrains to the States/UTs from time to time. During the current year, Government of India has so far made an additional allocation of 69.42 lakh tons of foodgrains for additional BPL/AAY families in the States/UTs.