

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5537
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
RELEASE OF FOODGRAINS
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether the Government has received suggestions to release foodgrains into the market from its godowns to check their increasing prices in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the quantum of foodgrains likely to be released in the market;
- (c) the percentage of foodgrains likely to be stored as strategic/buffer stock;
- (d) whether any assessment has been made in regard to likely fall in the prices of foodgrains as a result of the said measures; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes Madam. Requests have been received from Governments of Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu for allocation under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) Retail. Details are as follows-

State
Request for allocation
Request for allocation
of wheat under OMSS(D) of rice under OMSS(D)

Jharkhand
2000 tonnes
9000 tonnes

Tamil Nadu
0
75000 tonnes

Under OMSS bulk and retail scheme, 70 lakh tonnes of wheat and 5 lakh tonnes of rice was allocated for the period November, 2012 to March, 2013. However, at present there is no proposal under consideration for making allocations under OMSS.

(c): As on 1.4.2013, details of foodgrains stock available in the Central Pool against the buffer and strategic reserve norms are as follows-

(fig in lakh tonnes)

Central Pool Stocks Buffer norm on Strategic reserve norm
as on 1.4.2013
1.4.2013 as on 1.4.2013

Wheat

242.07
40 30

Rice 354.68
122
20

(d): No Madam

(e): Does not arise