

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5702

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013

AVAILABILITY OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) whether the average per capita net availability of foodgrains has declined in every five year period since the reforms were introduced in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the gap between those eating more and those getting less to eat is worsening;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has conducted any study on the declining daily per capita net availability of foodgrains; and
- (f) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the corrective measures taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The per capita net availability of foodgrains (rice, wheat, other cereals and pulses) per annum in the country during the last five years from 2006 to 2009 for which data is available is as follows:

Year Per capita per year availability
 of foodgrains (in kg)

2006 162.5

2007 161.6

2008 159.2

2009 162.1

2010 (P) 160.1

P) Provisional

(c) & (d): No such data is available with the Government.

(e) & (f): No, Madam. However, considering the availability of sufficient stocks in the Central Pool and to augment availability of foodgrains to the targeted families and check rising prices of food items in the open market, the Government of India has been making additional allocation of foodgrains over and above the normal allocation under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) from time to time. During the year 2012-13, the Government of India has allocated a total of 627.67 lakh tons of foodgrains under

TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes. Further 95 lakh tons of wheat has been allocated starting from July 2012 for tender sale to bulk consumers/private traders under the OMSS and approximately 66.5 lakh tons of wheat has been sold under the scheme till 31.3.2013.