

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:789
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013
OFFTAKE UNDER PDS
Acharia Shri Basudeb

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

- (a) whether some State Governments have failed to lift their quota of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c) The State-wise details of allocation and offtake of foodgrains (normal and additional allocation) for the last three years and the current year are at Annex- I & II. The reasons for lower offtake by the States/ Union Territories (UTs) include inter alia, paucity of storage space and funds, non-availability of adequate number of rail rakes and labour problems in Food Corporation of India (FCI) etc. The Government has been urging States/ Union Territories (UTs) to lift their entire allocated quota of foodgrains through quarterly advisories, individual letters, various conferences and periodical meetings with them. With a view to resolve the storage problem, Government of India/ FCI has formulated a scheme called Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme in the year 2008 and 2009 for construction of storage capacity through Private Entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs), which will be guaranteed for hiring by FCI. A capacity of 82.00 lakh MT has already been completed. In order to resolve the movement of foodgrains related issue between Railways and FCI, a coordination committee has been set up at Ministry, Zonal and Regional level. The coordination committee meetings are held on regular basis due to which the compliance of movement plan prepared by FCI has increased considerably to almost 95% compared to 80-85% compliance reported earlier.