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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4749 ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014 CASH FOR FOODGRAINS Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the provision for providing cash subsidies under the National Food Security Act on the State Finances and the beneficiaries availing it and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to delete the said provision to protect the poor beneficiaries from the impact of price fluctuation and reduce financial burden of the States; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a) to (c): The National Food Security Act, 2013 has no provision for providing cash subsidies. The Act, however, contains measures for reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) which the Central and State Governments shall endeavour to progressively undertake, which inter alia include introducing schemes, such as, cash transfer, food coupons, or other schemes, to the targeted beneficiaries in order to ensure their foodgrains entitlement. At this stage, there is no proposal to introduce cash transfer scheme.