

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:594
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2014
PRICE OF RICE
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether the Government has imposed storage/stock limit for rice and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the prices of rice continue to rise despite imposition of storage/stock limit and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the production, consumption, availability, demand and stock of rice available during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to contain the prices of rice and increase the production of paddy?

Answer

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

(a):Yes. The stock limits for rice and paddy were imposed under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and is currently in operation up to 30.11.2014.

(b):The prices of essential food items including rice normally go up on account of several factors such as limited market availability increase in transportation costs and artificial shortages because of hoarding and black-marketing.

(c):The requisite information is given in the Annexure.

(d):Action taken by the government to contain the prices of rice includes :

Maintained the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs.5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs 3 per kg for AAY).

Suspended Futures trading in rice.Recently approved the release of additional five million tonnes of Rice to BPL & APL families in states pending implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Issued advisory to State Governments to take effective action against hoarding and black marketing under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 & the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act 1980.

For increasing the productivity and production of rice in the country, the ?National Food Security Mission- Rice (NFSM-Rice)? and the programme of ? Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)? - a sub-scheme of Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) are being implemented.