

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:437

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014

FOOD PROGRAMMES

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

- (a) the targets fixed and achieved for procurement of foodgrains and the quantum required for ensuring food security in the country along with the steps taken for their safe storage during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the mechanism in place for distribution of foodgrains indicating the number of beneficiaries covered and the criteria adopted for their identification;
- (c) whether the Government has received request for increasing allocation of foodgrains in view of increasing prices;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to check artificial scarcity and control prices in the country?

Answer

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

(a): The requirement of foodgrains for full implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA) is 614.3 lakh tonnes. State-wise details of targets fixed for procurement and actual procurement for last three years and current year are at Annex-I & II. Details of steps taken for safe storage of foodgrains are at Annex - III.

(b): The foodgrains required for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are procured by Central Government under Price Support operations and made available to State Governments for further distribution through Public Distribution network. Central Government has notified NFSA on 10.9.2013 which provides for coverage upto 75% of rural population and upto 50% of the urban population, thus covering about 81.35 crore persons at all India level. The identification of beneficiaries has to be done by State/UT Governments. The Act provides for identification of priority households by States/UTs in accordance with the guidelines as specified by them and identification of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households in accordance with the guidelines applicable to said scheme.

(c) & (d): Requests have been received from the States for release of additional allocation over and above the normal TPDS allocation. Considering the requests of State Governments, the Government has allocated 66.45 lakh tonnes of foodgrains during the current year. For additional TPDS requirement, festivals, natural calamities etc., 12.75 lakh tonnes of foodgrain has also been allocated to States. In addition, 48.98 lakh tonnes of foodgrain has been allocated to States under Other Welfare Schemes(OWS).

(e): Details of steps taken to check artificial scarcity and control prices are at Annex - IV.