GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO12.11.2010

ANSWERED ON

SUPREME COURT JUDGEMENT ON ROTTENING OF FOODGRAINS.

511 Smt. Kusum Rai

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

- (a) whether Hon`ble Supreme Court has directed Government to distribute additional foodgrains rottening in the godowns to BPL families;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of Government thereto;
- (d) whether Hon'ble apex court has expressed serious concern over rottening of foodgrains;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps Government proposed to take in this regard in view of the comments of Hon'ble apex court?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (f) : In view of reports of damages to Central Pool stocks of foodgrains in some godowns of FCI and State agencies during last monsoon season, Hon'ble Supreme Court expressed concern and suggested to Government to take some long term and short-term measures. While adequate storage facilities be created in the long term, increase in quantum of food supply to BPL population and distribution of foodgrains to deserving population at very low cost or no cost may be taken up in the short term.

Central Government allocates foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for Below Poverty Line (BPL)/ Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families at highly subsidized prices. Government also provides foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) families, other Welfare Schemes and makes additional allocations as per requests received from State/UT Governments. In September 2010, Government has also allocated to State/UT Governments an additional quantity of 25 lakh tones of wheat/rice on adhoc basis at BPL prices for the next six months.