

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.03.2011
ANSWERED ON
HOARDING OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES .

1107

Shri N. Balaganga

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

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- (a) whether Government has recently raided the storage facilities of the private companies/traders, with regard to the stocks of essential commodities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it has come to the notice that a large number of companies are hoarding huge stocks of essential commodities, leading to spurt in prices during the last one year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b) : The enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 lies with the State Governments/ Union Territories. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been delegated powers to take necessary action under the provisions of "The Essential Commodities Act, 1955" to prevent hoarding of essential commodities. The number of raids conducted, number of persons prosecuted, number of persons convicted and value of goods confiscated for violation of rules under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during the year 2010 as reported by State Governments/UTs are as under:

Year	No. of raids	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	No. of persons arrested	No. of goods confiscated	Value
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(in Rs.lakhs)

2010	204783	10906	4539	161	10500.7
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updated
as on
23.02.2011)

(c) & (d): No specific information has been reported by the State Governments/UT Administrations regarding hoarding of huge stocks of essential commodities by companies.