

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO 07.03.2011

ANSWERED ON

OVERFLOW IN FCI GODOWNS .

1119

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT

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

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(a) whether it is a fact that about 5.7 crore tonnes of foodgrains are overflowing in FCI godowns; and

(b) if so, the reasons Government has refused to distribute them at cheaper rates through PDS, which would have helped in bringing down the market prices?

ANSWER

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

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): No, Sir. The stock of foodgrains in FCI godowns as on 31.01.2011 was 223.38 lakh tonnes. The storage capacity available with FCI both owned and hired, covered and Cover & Plinth (CAP) was 311.20 lakh tonnes as on 31.1.2011.

(b): Allocations of foodgrains are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for all 6.52 crore BPL families including 2.43 crore AAY families accepted for allocation under TPDS on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission and March 2000 population estimates of the Registrar General of India or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Governments, whichever is less.

The allocation of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) category are made depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past offtake. Presently, these allocations of foodgrains range between 10 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs.

Requests have been received from time to time from different States/UTs for restoration of 2006-07 level of allocations/increased/ additional allocation of foodgrains. Considering these requests and availability of stocks in the Central Pool, Government has made the following additional allocations to States/UTs:

- i. 36.08 lakh tonne of foodgrains in January 2010 at MSP based/derived prices for distribution to all AAY/BPL/APL families for two months.
- ii. 30.66 lakh tonne of foodgrains in May 2010 for all accepted number of BPL/AAY/APL families @ Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice.
- iii. 27.41 lakh tonne of foodgrains to 22 States/UTs on 2nd August 2010 and 3.65 lakh tonne of foodgrains on 3rd August, 2010 to 5 NE States and 2 hill States for six months from August, 2010.
- iv. 25.00 lakh tonne of foodgrains for BPL families at BPL prices to all States/UTs in September, 2010 for distribution for six months.
- v. 25.00 lakh tonne of foodgrains for BPL families at BPL prices to all States/UTs in January, 2011 for distribution for six months.
- vi. 25.00 lakh tonne of foodgrains for APL families @ Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice to all States/UTs in January 2011 for distribution for six months.