

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.03.2011
ANSWERED ON
ANNUAL ALLOCATION OF RICE FOR KERALA .

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Dr. T.N. Seema

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

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- (a) the present annual quantity of rice allocation under BPL and APL categories to Kerala;
- (b) whether Kerala Government has requested for restoration of allocated quantity of rice to the State from the present level to 1,13,000 MT; and
- (c) whether Government would release the increased quantity as requested by the State?

ANSWER

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

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), allocations of foodgrains, including rice, are made to States/Union Territories, including Kerala @ 35kg per family per month for accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) (including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)) families. 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.

During the current year, an allocation of 5.69 lakh tons of rice for BPL including AAY families and 5.80 lakh tons of rice to APL families in Kerala has been made apart from 0.84 lakh tons of wheat for BPL and 1.66 lakh tons of wheat to APL families. In addition, considering the request of the State Government from time to time, following special adhoc allocations have been made to Kerala:-

1) 105818 tons of rice and 48052 tons of wheat at the price of Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice for all accepted number of families including APL under TPDS made on 19.5.2010. 2) 47210 tons of rice and 12374 tons of wheat allocated in September, 2010 for BPL families at BPL prices for distribution for six months. 3) 47210 tons of rice and 12374 tons of wheat allocated in January, 2011 for BPL families at BPL prices for distribution for six months. 4) 69158 tons of rice and 29735 tons of wheat allocated in January, 2011 @ Rs. 8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice for distribution to APL families for six months.

(b) & (c): Government of Kerala has given representations for restoration of APL rice allocation to 2006-07 levels, i.e. 113420 tons per month. The higher allocation of foodgrains in 2006-07 was made due to surplus availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and lower offtake by the States. Considering the request and availability of stocks in the Central Pool, additional allocations of foodgrains, including rice, under APL category have been made to the State from time to time as indicated above.