GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1503
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.09.2020

HOARDING OF ESSENTIAL ITEMS IN KARNATAKA

1503 SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

Will the MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of illegal hoarding of essential commodities like potato, rice, pulses, etc., that have been brought to notice of Government in the State of Karnataka after March, 2020;
(b) if so, the action that has been taken by Government against such illegal hoarders;
(c) the steps being taken by Government to prevent the hoarding of essential items in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
(d) the number of people in the State of Karnataka who have been convicted of illegal hoarding of essential items this year?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a) & (b) : State Government of Karnataka has reported that, since no stock limits have been imposed there is no question of taking action treating a stock illegal hoarding. However, 200 cases of storing/transporting PDS commodities illegally were detected and cases booked under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Out of these 200 cases, 181 FIRs have been lodged and 199 suspected have been arrested.

(c) & (d) : Action against hoarding of essential food commodities are taken by State Government, through conducting of periodical inspections and surprise raids regularly. During the year so far no person has been convicted for illegal hoarding of essential items.

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