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

#### RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.97 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2023

#### **DELAY IN PDS SUPPLY**

#### 97. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

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

- (a) whether any complaints/reports regarding delay or inadequate supply of items to the States, under Public Distribution System (PDS), have been received and if so, the details thereof and the corrective action taken by Government thereon;
- (b) whether allocation of the said commodities have been reduced recently; and
- (c) if so, whether requests have been received from the States for restoration of earlier quota or increase the supply of said commodities and if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto?

# A N S W E R MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND TEXTILES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. \*97 FOR ANSWER ON 28.07.2023 IN THE RAJYA SABHA

(a): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated to implement National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries/families, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs), etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments

Food Corporation of India issues foodgrains (wheat and Rice) to the State/UT Governments as per the allocation fixed in respect of each State/UT by GoI. FCI has sufficient stocks to meet the PDS requirements. In case State Govts fail to lift the foodgrains for PDS within the normal lifting period due to some operational, logistic issues etc, extension for lifting of food grains and utilization for PDS by respective State/UTs is granted by FCI &GoI, as per request made by them.

No significant complaints have been received in this regard.

(b): No sir, the overall quantity of foodgrain has not been reduced; however, to ensure management of foodgrain stocks as per norms, to position rice stock for distribution of fortified rice and to ease the pressure on the logistics, this Department vide letter dated 13.05.2022 has revised the allocation of foodgrains (in favour of more rice) in regard to 12 States/UTs under NFSA/Tide Over category keeping the overall quantity of foodgrains unchanged. The revised allocation was initially applicable upto 31.03.2023, which was extended up to June, 2023 uniformly for all the 12 States/UTs. The allocation was again reviewed in May, 2023 in consultation with FCI and it was decided to continue the revised allocation under NFSA/Tide Over from July, 2023 onwards for all these States/UTs.

(c): Yes sir, State Governments of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have requested for restoration of earlier ratio of wheat and rice. However, after the review in May, 2023, it was decided to continue with the same ratio in case of the 12 States/UTs. This criteria has been made applicable uniformly for all these States/UTs.

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