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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1628 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2024

SCHEME FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS

1628 SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA:

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

(a) the details of the scheme for distribution of foodgrains under the 'Bharat brand';

(b) the details of the variety of foodgrains that are being distributed in the first phase, State-wise;

(c) the details of the foodgrains being distributed/ would be distributed in the second phase; and

(d) whether there is any visible impact in terms of price rise control, after the roll-out of this scheme?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): Bharat Atta and Bharat Rice were launched on 6.11.2023 and 6.02.2024 respectively to make available atta (wheat flour) and rice to general consumers at subsidized rates. Bharat Atta and Bharat Rice is being sold through three central cooperative organizations viz. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), Kendriya Bhandar and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF).

Bharat Atta and Bharat rice were sold at a maximum retail price (MRP) of Rs.27.50/kg and Rs.29/kg, respectively till 30.06.2024. During Phase II, Bharat Atta and Bharat rice are now being sold at MRP of Rs. 30/kg and Rs. 34/kg, respectively by three central cooperative organizations through their own stores ,mobile vans, E-commerce platforms and big chain retailers.

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Bharat Dal was launched in July, 2023 to make dals available to consumers at affordable prices. Under the scheme, Bharat Chana Dal was sold to consumers at subsidized rates of Rs.60 per kg for 1 kg pack and Rs.55 per kg for 30 kg pack, till 30 September, 2024. Under Phase –II of Bharat (Chana) dal till 31 December, 2024, the allocated stock is being sold in Dal form and Whole form in the ratio of 80:20 in 1 kg packs at MRP of Rs. 70/kg for Chana Dal and Rs.58/kg for Chana Whole.

The Bharat Dal scheme has been extended to include Moong Dal and Masur Dal for retail sale to the consumers. The retail prices Moong (whole), Moong (dal form) are Rs. 93 per kg and Rs. 107 per kg, respectively whereas retail price of Masoor dal is Rs.89 per kg.

(b) & (c): Under Bharat brand scheme, Wheat flour (Atta) was sold after converting wheat lifted from FCI stocks to Atta. The rice from FCI stocks are further sorted and sold as Bharat Rice.

Under Bharat Dal, the stocks from Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) are converted into dal for retail sale. Chana dal, Chana (whole) was sold during Phase-I and it has been extended to include Moong dal, Moong (whole) and Masoor dal during Phase-II.

(d): The objective of Bharat brand scheme is to provide Atta, Rice and Pulses to general consumers at subsidized rates with a view to increase the availability of these commodities in the market and have a moderating influence on the prices.
