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

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 218 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02nd JANUARY, 2018

ALLOTMENT OF FOODGRAINS TO KERALA

*218. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allotment of foodgrains to Kerala under National Food Security Act, 2013;

(b) whether the Government plans to give additional two lakh metric tons of foodgrains to the State of Kerala and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has received representation from the State of Kerala to issue single release order from Food Corporation of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) the details of the action taken by the Government for allotment of sugar for the priority category in Kerala?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN)

(a)to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (E) OF STARRED QUESTION NO 218 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02^{ND} JANUARY, 2018 IN LOK SABHA.

(a) & (b): Government of Kerala has implemented National Food Security Act, 2013 with effect from 1st November, 2016. Accordingly Kerala is getting an annual allocation of 14.25 LMT of foodgrains, which comprises of 11.49 LMT of rice and 2.76 LMT of wheat. Any additional requirement of foodgrain over and above entitlement under NFSA can be made at economic cost. The State Government can also participate in Open Market Sale Scheme (D) organized by FCI as the rate of foodgrain under OMSS (D) is less than that of economic cost.

(c) &(d): As reported, FCI Kerala region has not received any official communication from the Government of Kerala for issuance of single Release Order. FCI, Kerala has been issuing Release Orders under NFSA to the District Supply Officers (as is being done for other States) as per the District-wise sub-allocation made by the State Government; who in turn sub-allocate the same to the talukas under their respective jurisdiction

(e): The Government of India has reviewed the Sugar Subsidy Scheme in May 2017. Accordingly, the Government has decided that the existing system of sugar distribution through PDS may be continued with restrictive coverage of AAY families only. They will be provided one kg of sugar per family per month for which subsidy of Rs. 18.50 per kg will be provided by the Central Government to States/ UTs. The States/ UTs are required to procure sugar from open market through transparent system for distributing the same under PDS.

The annual quota of sugar fixed for Kerala State under the revised sugar subsidy scheme for AAY families is 7150 MT.

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