

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 476
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2017
QUANTITY OF RICE RELEASED TO KERALA

476. SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER:
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

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

- (a) the quantum of rice released to Kerala under BPL, APL and AAY through the Public Distribution System (PDS) during the last three years;
- (b) the details of wheat and rice released under various scheme for the last three years;
- (c) whether the distribution of Rice to Kerala State is pending and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has received any representation from the State of Kerala regarding more allocation of food grains and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (e): Kerala implemented National Food Security Act, 2013 with effect from 1-Nov-2016. Allocation of foodgrain to Kerala under TPDS and under NFSA is as given below:

S.No.	Year	Normal TPDS/NFSA Foodgrain allocation (Qty. MT)
1.	2014-15 - TPDS	12,26,724 (that includes 10,01,844 MT of rice and 2,24,880 MT of wheat)
2.	2015-16 - TPDS	12,26,724 (that includes 10,01,844 MT of rice and 2,24,880 MT of wheat)
3.	2016-17 - TPDS (April-Oct)	7,15,589 (that includes 05,84,409 MT of rice and 1,31,180 MT of wheat) (proportionate of 12,26,724 per annum for 7 months)
4.	2016-17 - NFSA (Nov'16-March'17)	5,93,770.415 MT (that includes 4,78,578.960 MT of rice and 1,15,191.455 MT of wheat) (proportionate of 14,25,048.996 per annum for 5 months)

In addition to the above, in view of surplus availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool, Government of India also made additional *ad hoc* allocation of foodgrain to Kerala to the tune of 3,68,639 MT, 3,65,256 MT and 91,314 MT in 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively (which includes 3,44,945 MT, 2,70,480 MT and 67,620 MT of rice and 23,694 MT, 94,776 MT and 23,694 MT of wheat respectively during these three years).

The average annual offtake of foodgrains under erstwhile TPDS (which includes Addl. APL) during three years immediately prior to the NFSA coming into force (2010-11 to 2012-13) in respect of Kerala was 14.25 lakh tons, which has completely been protected under NFSA. This principle has uniformly been applied to all States/UTs under NFSA.

Under erstwhile TPDS, only 2.50 lakh MT of foodgrains for AAY households was being allocated per year at Rs.2/3 per kg for wheat/rice, whereas under NFSA, the annual allocation of 10.25 lakh tons (out of total 14.25 lakh MT of foodgrain) for the coverage determined for the State is being allocated at Rs.2/3 per kg for wheat/rice, which results in higher subsidy burden on Government of India and higher savings for the State Government/beneficiaries in Kerala.

Under Welfare Institution Scheme Kerala was allocated 2,136 MT, 2,322 MT and 1,728 MT of foodgrain (wheat and rice) during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. The allocation under this scheme is subject to submission of UCs and unspent balance of foodgrain for the previous allocations.

Requests were received from the Government of Kerala for increasing foodgrain allocation to the State under NFSA. However, in view of the uniform policy for all the States/UTs for determining foodgrain allocation under the Act, this could not be agreed to. Government of Kerala has further been informed that 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.
