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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3267 TO BE ANSWERED ON 9^{TH} AUGUST, 2023

ADDITIONAL FOODGRAINS TO ANDHRA PRADESH

3267. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to put into motion the proposal by the State of Andhra Pradesh to allocate additional foodgrains from its savings to meet the demand of the State of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to(b): Allocation of foodgrains to States/Union Territories (UTs) under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is made on the basis of identification of beneficiaries reported by the States/UTs within the State/UT-wise coverage of population determined by the then Planning Commission(now Niti Aayog) on the basis of data of NSSO household consumption expenditure survey 2011-12 and foodgrains entitlement prescribed under the Act i.e. 35 kg per household per month for households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana and 5 kg per person per month for Priority households. The Act further provides that if on the above basis, annual foodgrains allocation to any State/UT is lower than the average annual offtake during 2010-11 to 2012-13 under erstwhile normal Targeted Public Distribution System, the same shall be protected.

The coverage of beneficiaries determined for the State of Andhra Pradesh under the NFSA is 268.23 lakh persons against which the State has identified 268.22 lakh beneficiaries. The number of beneficiaries keeps on changing due to addition/deletion of ration cards due to various reasons, as reported by States/UTs time to time. Accordingly, 1,54,148.030 MT of foodgrains are being allocated per month to the State Government at free of cost. In addition to this 1,838.970 MT of foodgrains are being allocated monthly under "tide over" to protect the average annual offtake during 2010-11 to 2012-13. Thus, the State of Andhra Pradesh is receiving 1,55,987 MT of foodgrains per month (18,71,844 MT of foodgrains per annum) which is as per maximum permissible limit under the Act.

The Central Government, to remove the financial burden of the poor beneficiaries and to ensure nationwide uniformity and effective implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) decided to provide food grains free of cost to AAY households and PHH beneficiaries under NFSA, 2013, for a period of one year, beginning from 1st Jan 2023, under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) to all States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh with the likely expenditure of nearly Rs. 2 lakh crore annually.
