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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2589 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15^{TH} DECEMBER, 2015

AVAILABILITY OF FOODGRAINS

2589. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

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

- (a) whether the foodgrain production in 2014-2015 has dropped by 13 million tonnes as compared to 2013-14 production;
- (b) if so, whether it is likely to have an adverse impact on food security and supplies to poor through Public Distribution System due to shortage of foodgrains; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps proposed to address this problem?

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

- (a): Yes, madam, total foodgrains production in year 2014-15 was 252.68 million tonnes (4th advance estimate of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) against 265.04 million tonnes in year 2013-14.
- (b) & (C): No, Madam. The stock of wheat and rice in Central Pool as on 01.10.2015 was 450.28 lakh MT and the buffer norms to meet the demand of foodgrains for TPDS/NFSA and OWS for 01.10.2015 is 307.70 lakh MT. There is, thus, no shortage of foodgrains in Central Pool. In fact, the stock of foodgrains available in the Central Pool is more than the prescribed stocking norms, comprising of operational requirement as well as strategic reserve.
