

**Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2758
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2015**

HOARDING OF PULSES

2758. SHRI RAVINDER KUSHAWAHA: SHRI NANA PATOLE: SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY: SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER: SHRI JOSE K. MANI: SHRI NITYANAND RAI: SHRIMATI BUTTA RENUKA: SHRI RAMA KISHORE SINGH: DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE: SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: PROF. RAVINDRA VISHWANATH GAIKWAD: SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY: SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY: DR. P. VENUGOPAL: SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO: SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL: DR. BHOLA SINGH: SHRI YOGI ADITYA NATH: SHRI D.K. SURESH: ADV. JOICE GEORGE: SHRI SIRAJUDDIN AJMAL: SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT: SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR: SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
मिनिस्टर कंजुमर अफेयर्स, फूड एंड पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन be pleased to state:

- whether prices of essential commodities including foodgrains, edible oils, vegetables etc. have increased substantially, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective steps taken in this regard during the last three years and the current year;
- whether hoarding and black marketing have been identified as the major causes of price rise, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to check such practices;
- whether recent discovery of hoarded items point to the failure of the present regulations to check hoarding and black marketing, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto indicating the number of raids/searches conducted, essential commodities seized, number of cases registered and the penal action taken during the said period;
- whether the Government has directed the States to check hoarding and black marketing, if so, the details thereof and response of the States thereto; and
- the steps taken to strengthen the said regulations to check hoarding and black marketing and to control prices along with the mechanism in place to ensure adequate availability of essential commodities at affordable prices?

ANSWER

मिनिस्टर कंजुमर अफेयर्स, फूड एंड पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन
होर्डिंग और ब्लैक मार्केटिंग

**THE MINISTER FOR
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)**

- (a) : Yes Madam. Details are at **Annexure-I**.

(b) : Yes Madam. Hoarding is one of the causes of price rise. Details of raids conducted since 19.10.2015 up to 11.12.2015 and quantity of pulses seized are at **Annexure-II**.

(c) : The regulations are adequate. Their effectiveness depends on enforcement by the State Governments. Details of action taken by the States during last three years are at **Annexure-III**.

(d) : Yes, Madam. From time to time, the Department of Consumer Affair requested the States/UTs to strengthen implementation of the Essential Commodities Act and carry out anti-hoarding and anti-black-marketing operations effectively. Last letter was sent on 17.09.2015. Two National level meetings of Food & Civil Supply Ministers of States were held on 04.07.2014 and 07.07.2015. The States were to prepare six-monthly action plans for July to December to check prices of essential food items. No State submitted the Action Plan.

(e) : The regulations are strong enough to check hoarding, black marketing, profiteering, price rise and to ensure adequate availability of essential commodities at affordable prices.

ANNEXURE-I**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2758 FOR 15.12.2015 REGARDING HOARDING OF PULSES.****All India Daily Average Retail Prices of Essential Commodities including Food Grains, Edible Oils, Vegetables, etc**

Date: 07/12/2015

Unit: (Rs./Kg.)

Commodities	Daily Average Retail Price			
	Price As On	1 Year back	2 years back	3 Years back
	07/12/2015	05/12/2014	06/12/2013	07/12/2012
Rice	27.74	28.13	27.08	24.46
Wheat	23.89	22.14	21.43	19.56
Atta (Wheat)	25.28	24.3	23.12	21.52
Gram Dal	69.57	45.25	50.92	65.39
Tur/Arhar Dal	151.15	75.22	70.26	69.22
Urad Dal	144.88	75.67	62.9	61.35
Moong Dal	107.85	95.54	76.14	72.46
Masoor Dal	88.52	71.37	58.6	54.55
Sugar	31.37	35.09	34.89	39.44
Milk @	39.79	38.55	34.86	32.9
Groundnut Oil (Packed)	122.63	117.86	124.83	133.45
Mustard Oil (Packed)	112.6	97.69	98.6	105.65
Vanaspati (Packed)	72.19	75.87	75.13	72.9
Soya Oil (Packed)	82.36	82.9	85.12	85.24
Sunflower Oil (Packed)	97.09	92.61	97.21	95.73
Palm Oil (Packed)	63.07	66.16	71.63	67.17
Gur	41.3	41.33	40.2	39.09
Tea Loose	206.26	203.4	201.49	202.1
Salt Pack (Iodised)	14.9	14.77	13.77	13.22
Potato	17.89	27.32	22.17	17.83
Onion	31.72	24.88	38.15	20.52
Tomato	33.03	24.68	34.79	20.1

Source:- State Civil Supplies Department

Contd.../-

Steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items:

1. Export of onion is restricted through Minimum Export Price (MEP) and presently the MEP is USD 700 per MT w.e.f. 24.8.2015. Import of onion is allowed at zero duty.
2. Imported 2000 MT of onion from Egypt and China through MMTC. As no demand from state were received, the onion is being disposed through tender in open market.
3. Retail sale of onion was undertaken from the stock held by SFAC and NAFFED.
4. The stock limits in respect of onion has extended by one more year i.e. up to 2nd July 2016 under the Essential Commodities Act.
5. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
6. Zero import duty on pulses extended till 30.9.2016 except for chana and lentils which will be reviewed during December 2015.
7. Imported 5000 MT of Tur from Malawi/Mozambique and allocated to States with a subsidy of Rs. 10 per Kg for retail sale to consumer.
8. Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
9. MSP raised for kharif pulses by Rs. 275 per qtl for Tur & Urad, and by Rs. 250 per qtl for Moong. MSP also raised for rabi pulses by Rs. 250 per qtl for Gram and Masoor.
10. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil, rice bran oil and organic edible oil and other edible oil in branded consumer packs of up to 5Kgs with a MEP of USD 900 per MT.
11. MSP increased in the range of Rs. 30 per qtl to Rs. 250 per qtl for various rabi and kharif oil seeds.
12. National Consultation Meeting of the Ministers of States/UTs in-charge of Consumer Affairs and Food held on 7th July, 2015 at New Delhi resolved to take steps to keep prices of essential commodities, especially Pulses and onion under control.
13. Advisory to State Governments issued to take strict action against hoarding & black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 & the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
14. Regular review meeting on price and availability situation is being held at the highest level including at the level of Finance Minister, CoS, IMC, PSFMC and other Departmental level review meeting.
15. Measures taken to improve availability by incentivizing production through higher MSP.
16. A new Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) has been implemented for regulating price volatility of agricultural commodities.

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Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for intra-state allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 notified on 31.08.2001 mandates the State / UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. Under the said Order, the State / UT Governments are responsible for implementing TPDS and are competent to take action against those indulging in malpractices in TPDS by invoking provisions of clauses 8 & 9 of the said Order. The PDS (C) Order, 2001 has been superseded by the TPDS (C) Order, 2015 notified on 20.03.2015 in consonance with National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013. The provisions of the PDS (C) Order, 2001 shall be effective in States/UTs which have not implemented the NFSA or are implementing it only in part. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of these Orders is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Thus, both the Orders empower State/UT Governments to take punitive action in case of contravention of relevant provisions of these Orders. State/UT-wise details regarding action taken under clauses 8 & 9 of the PDS (Control) Order is at **Annex**.

Statement showing results of action taken by the State/UT Governments under Clauses 8 & 9 of the PDS (Control) Order, 2001 from January 2012 to June, 2015

(As compiled 30.06.2015)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Year	Number of inspections	Number of raids conducted	Number of persons arrested/ prosecuted/ convicted	Number of FPS Licenses suspended/Cancelled/ Show cause notices issued/FIR lodged
1	Andhra Pradesh	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	5450	103	00	66
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2012	0	12	0	00
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
3	Assam	2012	650	258	00	32
		2013	501	162	00	14
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
4	Bihar	2012	73629	101	38	10358
		2013	32698	61	4	3984
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
5	Chhattisgarh	2012	3033	253	11	104
		2013	7726	792	64	244
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
6	Delhi	2012	29	00	00	28
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
7	Goa	2012	334	00	00	23
		2013	403	02	00	52
		2014	357	27	00	57
		2015	63	00	00	06
8	Gujarat	2012	15637	00	45	209
		2013	13911	00	87	310
		2014	8887	00	46	243
		2015	2436	00	07	122
9	Haryana	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
10	Himachal Pradesh	2012	31109	00	02	00
		2013	21814	00	02	04
		2014	9635	00	00	08
		2015	1389	00	00	02
11	Jammu & Kashmir	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*

12	Jharkhand	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
13	Karnataka	2012	64484	784	69	59
		2013	71613	444	94	170
		2014	39239	424	196	263
		2015	19283	243	44	147
14	Kerala	2012	110840	6760	02	127
		2013	83493	15683	00	139
		2014	92638	22427	02	115
		2015	*	*	*	*
15	Madhya Pradesh	2012	97846	16910	19	2323
		2013	251262	4092	71	4092
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
16	Maharashtra	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
17	Manipur	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
18	Meghalaya	2012	992	28	00	06
		2013	729	26	00	03
		2014	681	34	00	04
		2015	*	*	*	*
19	Mizoram	2012	338	223	00	03
		2013	204	107	00	00
		2014	242	147	00	00
		2015	56	33	00	00
20	Nagaland	2012	69	03	00	01
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
21	Odisha	2012	00	31197	131	1229
		2013	00	27740	80	1229
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015				
22	Punjab	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
23	Rajasthan	2012	00	279	335	00
		2013	00	125	170	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
24	Sikkim	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	00	00	00	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
25	Tamil Nadu	2012	184677	10290	2340	00
		2013	175705	9196	2008	00
		2014	218293	8949	53	00
		2015	*	*	*	*

26	Tripura	2012	10676	392	00	780
		2013	10150	671	87	1254
		2014	9843	403	20	431
		2015	2729	111	00	149
27	Uttarakhand	2012	2953	1477	7	16
		2013	10897	1683	11	101
		2014	2236	00	01	15
		2015	*	*	*	*
28	Uttar Pradesh	2012	76458	19226	976	5302
		2013	9220	00	311	1807
		2014	8226	00	261	1906
		2015	*	*	*	*
29	West Bengal	2012	15436	452	01	1213
		2013	17284	302	04	1840
		2014	22769	75	01	1401
		2015	7680	52	00	462
30	A&N Islands	2012	316	00	00	17
		2013	126	00	00	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
31	Chandigarh	2012	00	00	00	00
		2013	00	00	10	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
32	D&N Haveli	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	08	02	00	00
		2014	06	02	00	00
		2015	*	*	*	*
33	Daman & Diu	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
34	Lakshadweep	2012	00	00	00	00
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
35	Puducherry	2012	385	770	161	00
		2013	1026	520	49	01
		2014	2206	670	13	00
		2015	511	175	00	00
Total		2012	689891	89415	4137	21830
		2013	714220	61711	3052	15310
		2014	415258	33158	593	4443
		2015	34147	614	51	888
Grand Total= 2012+2013+2014+2015			1853516	184898	7833	42471

* Information not provided

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2758 FOR 15.12.2015 REGARDING HOARDING OF PULSES.

Details of raids conducted since 19.10.2015 to 11.12.2015 by States and quantity of pulses seized

Sl. No.	State	Raids conducted	Qty seized (MT)
1.	Chhattisgarh	112	5447.93
2.	Haryana	1652	14.60
3.	Karnataka	1351	25545.82
4.	Madhya Pradesh	969	3373.60
5.	Maharashtra	5250	86709.39
6.	Telangana	1924	3316.84
7.	Rajasthan	840	2653.11
8.	Jharkhand	140	282.02
9.	Odisha	180	1410.26
10.	Andhra Pradesh	1300	1361.52
11.	Gujarat	203	53.01
12.	Himachal Pradesh	500	3.42
13.	GNCT Delhi	01	81.29
14.	Bihar	299	360.41
	Total	14721	130613.22

Source: State Governments.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2758 FOR 15.12.2015 REGARDING HOARDING OF PULSES.

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955 DURING THE YEARS 2012-2014

(Relating to offences of violation of stock control orders)

Updated as on 7.12.2015

Sl. No.	STATE/Uts	No. of Raids Conducted			No. of Persons								
					Arrested			Prosecuted			Convicted		
		2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014
1	Andhra Pradesh	16783	21051	6884	77	138	64	0	-	0	1	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	12	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
3	Assam	576	969	148	2	NIL	NIL	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
4	Bihar	102	61	25	42	4	9	-	-	6	NIL	-	-
5	Chattisgarh	482	493	101	0	92	0	25	46	0	1	77	0
6	Delhi	NIL	NR	NR	NIL	NR	NR	NIL	NR	NR	NIL	NR	NR
7	Goa	620	640	93	4	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
8	Gujarat	21868	17707	11089	67	95	41	36	52	25	-	-	-
9	Haryana	18	113	99	7	1	46	3	0	13	2	2	1
10	Himachal Pradesh	35739	32278	27220	4	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Jammu & Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12	Jharkhand	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13	Karnataka	784	468	525	69	172	225	0	0	0	0	0	1
14	Kerala	26285	39649	24855	2	0	17	0	0	3	0	0	0
15	Madhya Pradesh	21607	13929	3255	17	71	35	36	20	89	1	1	3
16	Maharashtra	1455	1014	973	2267	1618	7173	2045	1280	250	8	2	0
17	Manipur	18	6	NIL	16	16	NIL	6	-	NIL	2	-	NIL
18	Meghalaya	604	1059	373	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
19	Mizoram	223	194	145	0	0	0	NIL	NIL	0	NIL	NIL	NIL
20	Nagaland	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
21	Orissa	43420	27740	10102	2	80	-	147	58	18	-	-	-
22	Punjab	120	450	1763	1	5	3	1	9	NIL	1	-	NIL
23	Rajasthan	279	243	NR	28	19	NR	212	50	NR	132	13	NR
24	Sikkim	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	0	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
25	Tamil Nadu	10499	9196	9176	4467	5609	3949	2891	3402	1980	92	162	2068
26	Tripura	392	671	447	2	NIL	10	1	NIL	10	NIL	NIL	NR
27	Uttarakhand	1477	1683	NR	4	4	1	7	9	1	-	-	1
28	Uttar Pradesh	25524	36234	25879	273	332	202	984	1075	738	6	8	0
29	West Bengal	489	339	729	232	99	173	0	0	28	129	8	-
30	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	211	NIL	NIL	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
31	Chandigarh	9	3	NR	22	7	NR	-	-	NR	-	-	NR
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5	2	3	13	0	0	5	NIL	0	NIL	NIL	NIL
33	Daman & Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
34	Lakshadweep	0	NR	NB	0	NR	NB	NIL	NR	NB	NIL	NR	NB
35	Puducherry	770	520	848	161	49	14	-	8	24	0	0	0
36	Telangana	8718	13701	7136	NR	NR	55	NR	NR	0	NR	NR	0
	Total	219092	220413	131868	7782	8413	12017	6403	6009	3185	375	273	2074

Source : Reports received from State Governments/UT

NR : *Not Reported

NB : No Blackmarketing
