

आदिवासी विकास, पहाड़ी क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम और मरु विकास कार्यक्रम चलाए जाते थे। सम्युष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से वितरित खाद्यान्नों का केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्य सामान्य सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्य से 50.00 रुपये प्रति क्विंटन कम था।

इस योजना में पहचान किए गए क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले प्रत्येक परिवार को प्रति माह 20 किलोग्राम खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध कराने की परिकल्पना की गई थी।

(घ) और (ङ) "सभी क्षेत्रों में गरीबों" को कवर करने वाली लक्षित सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के शुरू होने से "क्षेत्रों में सभी गरीबों" पर जोर देने वाली सम्युष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली निरर्थक हो गई है। लक्षित सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के तहत सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों में गरीबी रेखा से नीचे के प्रत्येक परिवार को विशेष राज सहायता प्राप्त मूल्यों पर प्रति माह 10 किलोग्राम खाद्यान्न जारी किए जाते हैं। केन्द्रीय सरकार वसूली करती है और राज्यों के क्षेत्रों और जिलों में आगे उप-आवंटन करने के लिए राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को बल्क में वितरण करती है।

#### Phased Decontrol of Sugar from PDS

2839. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer Starred Question 255, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1999 and state:

(a) whether High Powered Committee on sugar industry has recommended phased decontrol of sugar over a period of two years and discontinuation of supply of sugar through PDS on expiry of two years;

(b) whether those recommendations of the committee are under consideration of Government;

(c) on what condition of the situation, the decision to decontrol sugar was taken;

(d) whether those conditions would not exist after two years; and

(e) if so, the basis of arriving at such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The recommendation of the Mahajan Committee on decontrol of sugar is under consideration of the Government. However, it is not possible to lay down the time frame by which decision is likely to be taken on this recommendation of the Mahajan Committee.

(c) No, Sir. No decision to decontrol sugar has been taken.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

#### Agencies for Price Determination of Essential Commodities

2840. SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA:  
SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a tremendous increase in the prices of consumer goods;

(b) if so, what are the details of percentage increase of Wages Essential Commodities increased during the last six months;

(c) what are the names of agencies for price determination of these essential commodities; and

(d) whether Government propose to formulate any specific scheme to check the increase of prices of these essential commodities during the next six months; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The percentage variations in the wholesale price index numbers of selected essential commodities during the

last six months ending 27.3.99 are as follows;

Commodities	Percentage variation in 6 months during 26.9.98 to 27.3.99
Rice	6.7
Wheat	13.5
Gram	-7.1
Arhar	-6.6
Potatoes	-67.5
Onion	-74.6
Vanaspati	0.3
Groundnut oil	-18.1
Mustard Oil	-15.3
Tea	-21.6
Sugar	0.5
Salt	4.3

(c) There are no agencies to determine the consumer prices of essential commodities in the country as the same are determined by market forces of demand and supply.

(d) Apart from certain long term measures to increase the production of essential goods, imports of items which are in short supply like pulses and edible oil have been placed under DGL for imports. Import duty on pulses has been abolished and duty on the import of edible oils has been reduced during 1998-99 by 10 percent in order to augment the total availability of these items. Some of the essential commodities like rice, wheat, sugar, palmolein and kerosene are also supplied through public distribution system at below market prices. Stringent actions are being taken by the State/U.T. Governments against hoarders, black marketers and others indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act.

#### Save Food Campaign

2841. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government plan to 'save food campaign' and avoid waste of food stuffs to cope up with the shortages of food;

(b) if so, the quantum of food saved under the scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that FCI is having a huge quantity of foodgrains stored in their godowns, which is outdated and not fit for human consumption;

(d) if so, why it was allowed to be spoiled; and

(e) whether Government have fixed any responsibility for this negligence and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) In order to minimise post harvest losses in foodgrains at farm level, the Government of India has been operating Save Grain Campaign (SGC) scheme since 1969-70 to educate the farming community on scientific storage of foodgrains by adopting recommended code of storage practices. The techniques of scientific storage of foodgrains developed by the Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute (IGRMI) are disseminated to the farming community through 17 regional office of the SGC by way of training, demonstration and publicity.

(c) A quantity of 1.47 lakh M.T. of damaged foodgrains unfit for human consumption was available with the Food Corporation of India as on 1.2.99 as against a total quantity of 153.19 lakh MT held in storage.

(d) and (e) The damage to the foodgrains occurred due to natural