

Name of the Member States	Assessed share of foodgrains (in tons)
Afghanistan	1420
Bangladesh	40,000
Bhutan	180
India	1,53,200
Maldives	200
Nepal	4,000
Pakistan	40,000
Sri Lanka	4,000
TOTAL:	2,43,000

(c) Based on the Colombo Statement on Food Security adopted in the Fifteenth SAARC Summit held in New Delhi on 2-3 August, 2008, SAARC Food Bank has been operationalised. In the Second meeting of the SAARC Food Bank Board held in Colombo, 12-13 February, 2009, the SAARC Food Bank Board has agreed for transacting its business in terms of drawal of food grains by Member States from their own reserves as well as from reserves of other Member States. As provided under articles VI and VIII of the Agreement on establishing the SAARC Food Bank, in case of food emergencies a member country may withdraw foodgrains from its own assessed reserve by intimating other members and from shares of other member countries by approaching them.

Allocation of PDS rice to Kerala

166. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has approached the Central Government recently for higher allocation of PDS rice to Kerala and special assistance for supporting cash crops; and

(b) if so, the details in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) A request from Kerala Government has been received in June, 2009 for allocation of 1.13 lakh tons of APL rice which was the level of such allocation during 2006-07. The State Government of Kerala also requested in March, 2009 for sanction of enhanced financial assistance for replantation programme for natural rubber.

Import of edible oil

167. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's unsatiated demand for edible oils has once again set global oil market