

Price rise of essential commodities

2487. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that food prices are escalating unabatedly;
- (b) whether Government is preparing to intervene in the open market with its buffer stocks of wheat and rice; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) (Base Year 1993-94=100) for food grains as well as rice and wheat showed an overall increasing trend except a few months during the period January, 2008 to November, 2009. The statement of Monthly WPI of food grains, rice and wheat from January, 2008 to November, 2009 is given below.

Months	Food Grains		Rice		Wheat	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
January	217.7	242.2	195.5	225.2	231.4	243.6
February	219.1	247.9	196.8	230.5	232.6	246.8
March	222.3	248.1	198.9	232.2	233.4	244.2
April	223.9	250.6	201.7	231.3	233.4	246.8
May	222.8	254.3	200.8	233.8	232.6	249.9
June	223.8	256	200.7	235.8	233.8	249
July	228.1	259.1	203.1	237.1	240.8	248.7
August	229.7	262.3	203.2	238.8	239.9	247.6
September	229.8	262.4	203	237.2	241.7	250.6
October	235.3	266.6	214.9	243.3	238.5	254.9
November	237.5	266.8	218.5	246.2	239.3	268.7
December	239.6		222.2		240.9	

(b) and (c) Food Corporation of India has been allocated 5 lakh tonnes wheat during October-December, 2009 for sale through Open Tenders to bulk consumers of wheat like Roller Flour Mills, Biscuits Manufacture etc., who have processing units using wheat as raw material with an installed capacity of not less than 30 tonnes per month. In addition to this, Government has allocated 10 lakh tonnes wheat and 5 lakh tonnes of rice to the State/UT Governments under Open Market Sales Scheme (OMSS) (Domestic) for distribution to retail consumers, for October-December, 2009 period which is given in Statement.

Statement

Allotment of wheat and rice under OMSS(D) including wheat to bulk consumers for October, 2009- December, 2009

(Quantity, in Met. tonnes)

Zone	Name of FCI Region/ State Govt.	Allotment of wheat for retail consumer	Allotment of rice for retail consumer	Allotment of wheat to bulk consumers
1	2	3	4	5
North	Delhi	80481	8361	82422
	Chandigarh	0	0	7209
	Punjab	88982	0	33244
	Haryana	19522	0	16772
	Uttar Pradesh	51518	1593	231521
	Uttarkhand	26477	2196	20269
	Rajasthan	86932	39	7532
	Himachal Pradesh	49523	8780	1425
	J&K	40264	24684	25746
	TOTAL	443699	45653	217771
South	Tamil Nadu	30893	126422	38381
	Pondicherry	380	4	2810
	Kerala	40660	25675	29235
	Andhra Pradesh	8239	152753	30396
	A&N Island	798	650	0
	Lakshadweep	0	206	0
	Karnataka	18032	59215	66918
	TOTAL	99002	364925	167740
East	Bihar	5332	2	1475
	West Bengal	182990	7963	21206
	Sikkim	738	1897	42
	Orissa	31807	704	19920
	Jharkhand	3149	20	548
TOTAL		224016	10586	43191

1	2	3	4	5
North East	Assam	66247	41508	28355
	Arunachal Pradesh	1535	3674	0
	Meghalaya	3677	4476	0
	Tripura	4472	10368	0
	Mizoram	1885	3549	0
	Nagaland	7572	5871	0
	Manipur	3162	2756	0
	TOTAL	88550	72202	28355
West Maharashtra	68267	3210	29130	
	Goa	1604	1406	2107
	Madhya Pradesh	53885	351	8608
	Chhattisgarh	4939	960	1412
	Gujarat	15991	600	1686
	Daman & Diu	0	7	0
	D & N Haveli	45	100	0
	TOTAL	144731	6634	42943
	GRAND TOTAL	999998	500000	500000

Drought in the country

2488. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in the country which have been affected by drought alongwith names of the districts, Statewise; and

(b) the amount of rainfall received this year till October, 31st against the average rainfall received by the country during this period, State-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.V. THOMAS): (a) 316 districts in the country have been declared drought affected by 13 State Governments. The details are given in Statement (See below).

(b) On the basis of the information available from India Meteorological Department (IMD), the State-wise and District-wise cumulative rainfall from 1.1.2009 to 31.10.2009 is given at Annexure [See Appendix 218 Annexure No. 9]