

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) In September, 2009, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had reported shortfall of 13998.3 MT levy sugar against the allocations for the period March, 2009 to September, 2009. However, the Central Government had taken action to recoup levy shortfall of the State Government to the extent of 7664.9 MT by way of revalidation of a total quantity of 4130.5 MT and by reallocation of a total quantity of 3534.4 MT of levy sugar, after reviewing the cases of short supply/no supply allotment-wise. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has not been furnishing monthly information on lifting of levy sugar to the Government of India. As such, information on quantity of sugar supplied to Andhra Pradesh by defaulting sugar mills is not available with the Central Government.

Wastage of foodgrains

2150. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the foodgrains India is losing every year because of lack of storage facilities, rodents and floods; and

(b) the steps Government is taking to avoid such wastage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Some quantity of foodgrains get damaged due to various reasons such as rains, floods, cyclones, pest, rodents and fungus infestation of stocks.

Total quantity of damaged foodgrains (wheat, rice and Paddy) as on 1.07.2010 in the godowns of FCI is 11,708 MTs.

Commodity	Quantity (in MTs)
Rice	9141
Wheat	2486
Paddy	81
Total	11708

(b) The following steps are being taken for proper storage, movement and safe upkeep of food grains in FCI:

(i) All FCI godowns are constructed as per specifications and food grains is stored by adopting scientific storage practices.

- (ii) Adequate dunnage materials, fumigation covers and chemicals are provided in all the godowns.
- (iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments are carried out regularly and timely for the control of stored grain insect pests and rodents.
- (iv) Food grains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (v) Regular inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.
- (vi) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) is followed so as to avoid longer storage of food grains in godowns.

Price-rise of foodgrains

2151. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that price of foodgrains are increasing very high;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to control the price of foodgrains; and
- (c) the total stock of rice, wheat, sugar available under PDS this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The retail prices of essential commodities are showing a declining or steady trend in the case of rice, wheat, atta, pulses such as gram dal, urad dal, moong dal, masoor dal, sugar, edible oils such as groundnut oil, mustard oil and vanaspati, milk and potato over 6 months in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkatta and Chennai. However the retail prices of pulses such as tur dal, onion had shown a marginal increase over the same period. The details of retail prices of essential commodities in 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) The Government had already taken several measures to contain price rise of food grains is given in Statement-II (See below).

(c) There are ample stocks of wheat and rice in the central pool. The Central pool stock of wheat as on 1.7.2010 was 335.84 lakh tonnes and of rice was 242.66 lakh tonnes. The production of sugar in 2009-10 season is provisionally estimated at 185 lakh tones. As such, 37 lakh tonnes of stock would be available for PDS.