

Short comings in DCP scheme

2944. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

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

- (a) the objectives of De-centralized Procurement scheme (DCP);
- (b) whether only six States for wheat and ten States for rice have undertaken the DCP scheme so far;
- (c) if so, the reasons for not undertaking the DCP scheme by the remaining States;
- (d) whether Government has identified shortcomings of DCP scheme; and
- (e) if so, the measures taken to overcome the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Scheme of Decentralised Procurement (DCP) of food grains was introduced in 1997-98 with a view to enhance the efficiency of procurement & PDS and to encourage local procurement and reduce out go of food subsidy. In it, the states undertake the responsibility of procurement of food grains, its scientific storage and distribution through Targeted Public Distribution (TPDS). The surplus food grains procured by DCP states, in excess of their TPDS requirement is handed over to FCI for the Central Pool stocks and deficit, if any, is met by FCI.

(b) to (e) Yes, Sir. For wheat, 6 states (Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and West Bengal) and for rice, 10 states (Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands) have adopted the DCP system of procurement. However, Uttar Pradesh has moved out of DCP System from Rabi Marketing (RMS) 2010-11 and from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2010-11.

The decision regarding adoption of DCP system lies with the State Governments. The

determining factors are infrastructure and resources available with the respective State Government including manpower, storage and necessary logistics required for procurement and accordingly, State Government's readiness to undertake DCP procurement.

Measures for strengthening of PDS

2945. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

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

- (a) the details of measures taken by Government to strengthen PDS;
- (b) the measures taken to ensure that AAY and BPL families do get their due share of foodgrains on a regular basis; and
- (c) the quantum of wheat and rice meant for AAY and BPL families diverted into black market during the last two years and action taken against delinquent officers/FPS owners in the matter, State-wise/year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Central Government and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The 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 lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through the fair price shops (FPSs) are of the State/UT Governments.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.