

- (ii) Making loans for undertaking any schemes for development of sugarcane in the area in which any sugar factory is situated, including to a potentially viable sugar undertaking.
- (iii) Making grants for the purpose of carrying out any research project aimed at the promotion and development of any aspect of Sugar Industry.
- (iv) Defraying expenditure of a sugar factory on internal transport and freight charges on export shipment of sugar with a view to promoting its export.
- (v) Making loans to any sugar factory having an installed capacity of 2500 TCD or higher to implement a project of bagass-based co-generation of power.
- (vi) Making loans to any sugar factory having an installed capacity of 2500 TCD or higher for production of anhydrous alcohol or ethanol from alcohol or molasses with a view to improving its viability.
- (vii) Defraying expenditure to sugar factory for the purpose of building up and maintenance of buffer stock with a view to stabilizing price of sugar.
- (viii) Defraying expenditure for the purpose of financial assistance to sugar factories towards interest on loans given in terms of any scheme approved by the Central Government from time to time.
- (ix) Defraying any other expenditure for the purpose of the Act.

(b) No funds have so far been disbursed to sick sugar mills for their revival in the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh as no applications have been received in this regard.

(c) The Sugar Development Fund provides for giving soft loans to the sugar factories for their rehabilitation/modernization and also for development of sugarcane in their respective areas. Since inception and upto 31.07.2010 an amount of Rs. 210062.9 lakh and Rs. 72933.05 lakh, has been disbursed to the sugar factories for their modernization and sugarcane development respectively.

#### **Construction of godowns**

3392. 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 physical and financial targets set for construction of godowns during 2009-10 in respect of North-Eastern States as well as other States;
- (b) whether Government has achieved the targets; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the measures taken to step up construction of godowns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As against a physical target of

10,420 tonnes for construction of godowns by FCI in 2009-10, the achievement has been 9,170 tonnes. The financial target for 2009-10 for construction of godowns by FCI was Rs. 20.15 crores, against which the expenditure was 24.49 crores.

(c) For construction of godowns by FCI in the country including the North-Eastern States during the Eleventh Five Year Plan the Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 125 crores. As a long-term measure to step up creation of storage capacity in the country, the Government has formulated a scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs. Under the scheme the FCI would now give a guarantee of ten years to the Private Entrepreneurs for assured hiring. A capacity of 149.4 lakh tonnes is to be created under the scheme through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations

#### **Coverage of middle income group under PDS**

3393. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to revamp the Public Distribution System in the country so as to cover the middle income group of population who are mostly not entitled to this facility as they are income tax payers but are at present hard hit by unprecedented food inflation in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when that is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) With a view to specifically target poor sections of society for distribution of subsidized foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) and sugar, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in June, 1997. Foodgrains are allocated by the Government of India under TPDS to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35 kg. per family per month. However, a take care of the Above Poverty Line (APL) families, which include the middle income group, depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the central pool and past offtake, the allocations are also made to APL families. At present, allocation to APL families ranges between 15 kg. and 35 kg. per family per month in different States. To check rise in prices, additional *ad hoc* foodgrain allocations of 36.08 lakh tonnes have been made in January and February, 2010, 30.66 lakh tonnes in May, 2010 and 27.41 lakh tonnes in August, 2010.

#### **Action taken on Tendulkar Committee Report**

3394. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has considered Tendulkar Committee Report on the number of people living below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;