

(xiii) **OMSS interventions:**

- a. Allocation to State Governments under OMSS (Domestic) for release of 20.00 lakh tonnes of wheat was made to check inflationary trends in food economy from October 2009 to March 2010. The State/UT Government were asked to distribute wheat released under OMSS (D) to household consumers and small processors of wheat.
- b. In addition to above, a quantity of 10 lakh MTs wheat was also allocated for sale to bulk consumers through open tenders by FCI from October, 09-March, 10. Another 10.88 lakh tonnes of wheat from the expected savings from retail allocations was allocated for bulk consumers through tender sale.
- c. In order to check inflationary trend in prices of Rice, a quantity of 10.0 lakh tonnes of rice was allocated during October, 2009 to March 2010 to State Governments for distribution to retail consumers.
- d. On 18.1.2010, NAFED was allotted 37400 tonnes of wheat and 17000 tonnes of rice from the un-lifted quantity of OMSS allocations to state Governments. Similarly, NCCF was allocated 32684.21 tonnes wheat and 11000 tonnes rice for sale to retail consumers.
- e. On 16.2.2010, another allocation of 5 lakh tonnes of wheat was made for tender sale to small processors by FCI. High Level Committee of FCI has formulated guidelines for tender sale to small processors. The reserve price fixed for tender sale of wheat to bulk consumers undertaken by FCI. The total wheat allocation under OMSS now in 35 lakh tonnes, and total rice allocation is 10 lakh tonnes.

(xiv) The Government also contemplating bringing legislation on Food Security.

(xv) Experimented with popularization of Yellow Peas through sale in the Retail Outlets of NAFED, Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF and Mother Dairy in Delhi.

(B) Medium Term Measures:

In the medium term, Government has taken initiatives such as the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) to improve production and productivity in agriculture.

Rottening of rice in Punjab

597. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether a large quantum of rice has been rotting in Punjab due to the refusal of the Food Corporation of India to lift the stocks;

- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to take any steps to prevent such wastage in future and give farmers adequate compensation; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) to (d) Food Corporation of India (FCI) has procured 68.34 lakh tons of rice in Punjab during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2009-10. FCI has reported that it has not refused to lift the stock of rice meant for Central Pool and no rice stock has been allowed to rot. However, delivery of milled rice conforming to approved quality specifications to FCI by concerned milling agencies has been slow in some districts of Punjab.

Rice is not procured from farmers. Paddy is procured from farmers for which Minimum Support Price (MSP) is paid to them at the time of procurement.

National Food Security Law

†598. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether list of families living below poverty line has been prepared for distribution of ration cards by Government under the proposed National Food Security Law;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any special provision has been made by Government to ensure that ration cards which are to be distributed under food security law are not misused; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) to (d) The proposed National Food Security Act envisages entitling every Below Poverty Line Family to a certain quantity of foodgrains per month at subsidized prices. It will be used to bring about broader systemic reforms in the Public Distribution System. The proposed law is under consideration of an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM).

Food subsidy in cash to BPL and AAY beneficiaries

599. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for direct transfer of food subsidy in cash to the BPL and AAY beneficiaries, instead of distribution of foodgrains to them;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.