

**Allocation of rice for A.P.L. families in Orissa**

3477. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of rice for APL families being allotted per month to Orissa;
- (b) whether the quantity which was allotted earlier, was much more than this;
- (c) whether State Government has raised a demand to restore the previous trend; and
- (d) whether any action has been taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) allocations of foodgrains, including rice, to States and UTs, including Orissa for Above Poverty Line (APL) families are made on the basis of availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and their past offtake. Allocations of rice for the APL category were made in larger quantities till 2006-07 in view of surplus stocks available in the Central Pool at that time. However, offtake by the State Government was low.

In view of constraints on stock position of rice in the Central Pool, the allocation of rice under TPDS to States/UTs, including Orissa, for the APL category was rationalized from April, 2007 and again from April, 2008 on the basis of past offtake and availability of stocks in the Central Pool. Presently, allocation of 12988 MTs of rice and 39407 MTs of wheat are made for APL families in Orissa @ 15 kg/family/month.

The State Government has requested for enhancing the rice allocation to 65000 MTs. Considering the request of the State Government and availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool, to augment availability of foodgrains (including rice) in the State, the following *ad hoc* allocations of foodgrains have been made to the State during 2010-11 for APL and Below Poverty Line (BPL) families:

- (i) 73245 tons of rice and 42202 tons of wheat allocated in May, 2010 for all accepted families under TPDS, including APL families.
- (ii) 126453 tons of rice for BPL families at BPL price allocated in September, 2010 for distribution in six months.