

1	2	3	4
2.	Gujarat	250	0.19
3.	Rajasthan	22	0.01
4.	Tamil Nadu	122	0.27
5.	Uttar Pradesh	80	0.04
TOTAL:		3660	2.82

Management of food items

†*369. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a good crop this year in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that prices of food items have increased due to the lack of management and storage of food items;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action plan formulated by Government to deal with this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There has been a record agricultural production at 241.56 million tones during 2010-11 with a significant improvement in production of rabi rice, wheat, pulses and coarse cereals. As per the 4th advance estimates, total production of wheat in the country is estimated at 85.93 million tonnes and production of pulses estimated at 18.09 million tonnes both of which are an all-time record. Higher production of maize has contributed to record production of 42.22 million tonnes of coarse cereals in the country. The production of 9 oil seeds estimated at 31.10 million tonnes is also an all-time record.

(c) and (d) The retail prices of essential commodities have shown steady to declining trend in the case of pulses such as tur dal, urad dal, moongdal, masoor dal. While the prices of rice, wheat, attar sugar, vegetables such as potato and onion showed marginal increase in prices; in the case of the edible oils, the prices had shown an increasing trend over the last one year as observed in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. While rise in prices of rice and wheat could be due to the increase in MSP, these price rises in respect of rice and wheat cannot be attributed to food grain management and storage. Weather and seasonal factors affects the prices of vegetables.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In the case of edible oils, 50% of our requirements are imported to meet the demand supply mismatch. Therefore, domestic prices are also susceptible to the changes in the international prices.

(e) The action plan formulated by Government to deal with this situation and contain the price rise of food items in the country are given in Statement.

Statement

*Steps taken by the Government to contain price rise in essential
Commodities are listed below*

1. Fiscal Measures

- (i) Reduced import duties to zero — for rice and wheat, onion and pulses, edible oils (crude) and to 7.5% for refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils.
- (ii) NDDB has been allowed to Import of 30000 tonnes of skimmed Milk Powder and Whole milk powder and 15000 MT of Butter, Butter Oil and Anhydrous Milk Fat at zero% concessional duty under Tariff Rate Quota for the year 2011-12.
- (iii) Allowed sugar mills on 17.04.2009 to import duty-free raw sugar under Open General License (O.G.L.). Later this facility was extended to private trade on job basis.
- (iv) Allowed STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED on 17.04.2010 to import duty-free white/refined sugar initially with a cap of 1 million tonnes. Later on, duty-free import was also allowed by other Central/State Government Agencies and private trade without any cap on the quantity.

2. Administrative Measures

- (i) Removed levy obligation in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.
- (ii) Banned export of non-basmati rice and wheat until further orders, edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and pulses (except Kabuli chana and organic pulses up to a maximum of 10000 tonnes per year).
- (iii) Export of edible oils permitted in branded consumer packs of upto 5 kgs subject to a limit of 10,000 tonnes.
- (iv) Export of milk powders (including skimmed milk powder, whole milk powder, dairy whitener and infant milk food), Casein and Casein products has been prohibited with effect from 18.02.2011.
- (v) Effected no change in Tariff Rate Values of edible oils.

- (vi) Extended stock limit orders in the case of pulses, paddy and rice, edible oil, edible oilseeds and sugar.
- (vii) The MEP of onions other than Bangalore Rose Onions and Krishnapuram onions was US\$ 300 per metric tonne for the month of August, 2011. The MEP of Bangalore Rose Onion and Krishnapuram onion continue at US\$ 400 per metric tonnes and MEP of Sona Masuri and Ponni Samba varieties of non-Basmati rice was at USD 850 per MT.
- (viii) Maintained the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs. 5.65 per kg. for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg. for AAY) and wheat (at Rs. 4.15 per kg. for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg. for AAY) since 2002.
- (ix) Suspension of Futures trading in Rice, urad and Tur by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 continues during 2010-11. Futures trading in sugar were suspended *w.e.f.* 27.5.2009 upto 30.9.2010. However the future trading in sugar has since been resumed, with effect from 27.12.2010.
- (x) Proportion of sugar production requisitioned as levy sugar was increased from 10 to 20% for 2009-10 sugar seasons. However, for 2010-11 sugar season, the levy obligation has been reduced to 10%.
- (xi) Government has allocated 25 lakh tonnes of wheat and 20 lakh tonnes of rice under OMSS (D) 2011 for the period of January, 2011 to September, 2011.
- (xii) 25 lakh tonnes of foodgrains have been allocated on 6.1.2011 to all States/UTs for BPL families at BPL issue prices for distribution upto 30.9.2011.
- (xiii) An additional *ad-hoc* allocation of 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains made on 16th May, 2011 to all State/UTs for BPL families at BPL issue price for distribution during the current year upto March, 2012.
- (xiv) An additional *ad-hoc* allocation of 25 lakh tonnes of foodgrains made on 6.1.2011 to all States/UTs for APL families @ Rs. 8.45 per kg. for wheat and Rs. 11.85 per kg. for rice for distribution upto 30.9.2011.
- (xv) In addition, *ad-hoc* allocation of 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains made on 30th June, 2011 to APL families raising thereby monthly APL allocation upto 15 kg. per family per month in 20 States and 35 kg. per family per month in 4 North Eastern States, Sikkim and 2 hilly States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand where it was less than that quantity for a period often months from June, 2011 to March, 2012.
- (xvi) Scheme for distribution of subsidized imported pulses through State Governments/UTs with subsidy of Rs 10/- kg. for distribution @ 1 kg. per month.

- (xvii) Scheme for distribution of subsidized imported edible oils through State Governments/UTs with subsidy of Rs. 15/- kg. for distribution to ration card holders @ 1 liter per ration card per month.

Implementation of Polavaram inter-State Scheme

†*370. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether interests of Chhattisgarh and Orissa are being ignored in the implementation of Polavaram inter-State Scheme;

(b) whether objections have been raised by these States and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether plan for implementation of the Scheme has been formulated with the consent of all the States and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (c) The Indira Sagar Polavaram Project is being implemented by Government of Andhra Pradesh. The Detailed Project Report of Polavaram project was techno-economically examined by the Central Water Commission keeping in view Godavari Water Dispute Tribunal Award which duly took into account Inter State Agreements between the States of Andhra Pradesh, the then undivided Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, for the clearance of the project. The project proposal was accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources in its 95th meeting held on 20.01.2009 with the following conditions:—

- (i) The project authorities shall give to the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) the details of the proposed protection bunds along Sabari and Sileru to prevent submergence in Orissa and Chhattisgarh in accordance with the orders of Hon'ble High Court of Orissa and condition imposed by Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and MoEF and takes their concurrence before construction of these protection embankments.
- (ii) The project authorities shall furnish a confirmation report to MoTA that there is no change in the number of project affected ST families and ST population from what was reported at the time of clearance of R&R Plan by MoTA.
- (iii) The State of Andhra Pradesh shall ensure that there is no submergence of any habitations or forest area in Orissa and Chhattisgarh as assured by them by constructing protective embankments with adequate drainage arrangements.
- (iv) The project authorities shall fulfil the stipulated conditions of MoEF and MoTA as laid down in their respective clearances.

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