

pulses growing States to supplement the efforts of other schemes in enhancing the pulses production. Maize production is promoted through Integrated Scheme on Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM).

Requirement of foodgrains

666. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has directed the Chief Secretaries of all the States to indicate the amount of additional foodgrains required under Public Distribution System for distribution among the poor;

(b) whether the Apex Court has also suggested that the Centre should allocate an additional five million tonnes of foodgrains to 150 of the poorest districts of the country; and

(c) if so, the response of the States in complying with the suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 14.5.2011 directed Union of India to reserve 5 million tons of foodgrains for distribution to the 150 poorest districts or the extremely poor and vulnerable sections of our society. In its order dated 14.9.2011, the Hon'ble Supreme Court also directed the Chief Secretaries of State Governments to indicate their additional foodgrain requirement for the poorest districts in the States.

The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have conveyed in their response, additional requirements of foodgrains for the identified poor and backward districts. Responses from Assam, Nagaland and Punjab have also been received. Based on the aforementioned directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court and the recommendations of the Committee headed by Justice D.P. Wadhwa, Retired Judge of the Supreme Court, Government of India has allocated 23.67 lakh tons of

foodgrains during July to October, 2011, for distribution in 174 poorest and backward districts in 27 States identified by the Committee.

Management of food supplies in Gujarat

667. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of World Bank's comments on Gujarat Government's legislative reforms, administrative measures and use of technological platforms to manage food supplies as a model worth emulating in a recent report on food inflation;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Ministry thereto; and

(c) whether the Ministry is willing to adopt this model in the rest of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) World Bank in its June, 2011 Report on "The South Asia Economic Focus on Food Inflation - A Review of Economic Developments in South Asian Countries" has highlighted policies responsible for Gujarat's agricultural success of the last decade. According to the Report, four areas of reforms which have contributed to Gujarat's success are: (i) Technology development and diffusion; (ii) a holistic approach to electricity and water use; (iii) legislative reform; and (iv) technological advancements.

(c) Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 14.09.2011 in W.P. (C) 196/2001-PUCL vs. Union of India and Others has said that end to end computerization of Public Distribution System (PDS) may be considered in two parts of which second Component i.e. electronic authentication of delivery and payments at the Fair Price Shops (FPS) level may be done on similar lines of the Gujarat model of computerization. In pursuance of this direction, the department is taking necessary action in consultation with State Governments/UTs, National Informatics Centre, etc. to implement the directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its aforesaid order.