

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.