

(c) to (e) The blocks which have not come into production are in various stages of development. The responsibility of developing the coal block as per the prescribed guidelines and milestone chart attached with the allocation letter rests entirely with the allocatee company. In the terms and conditions of the allocation letters, it is categorically mentioned that in the event of willful delay in the development of coal blocks and in setting up of the end use project, the Government will take appropriate action to deallocate the said block. Further, the allocatees have to submit Bank Guarantee which remains valid at all the times till the production from the coal block reaches its peak rated capacity. The Coal Controller's office monitors on regular basis the achievement of different milestones. Government periodically monitor and reviews the development of allocated blocks as well as end use plants by the allocatee companies in the Review Meetings. As on date, based on the recommendations of review committee meetings held, the Government has de-allocated 25 coal blocks and 3 lignite blocks. In case of Takli Jena Bellora (South Part) coal block allocated to M/s Central Collieries Company Ltd. (a private company), the mining lease of the said block has been declared void.

The target for coal production from captive coal blocks was 38.25 Million Tonnes for 2011-2012. The production from captive coal blocks for the year 2011-12 was 36.24 Million Tonnes (Provisional).

Relief to APL card holders

3278. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to give relief to the common man hit hard by high food inflation by increasing foodgrains for the above poverty line (APL) card holders in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a way to ease the "problem of plenty" due to record foodgrains production and uncertainty over the Food Security Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) to (c) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), allocations of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) families are made depending upon availability of foodgrain stocks in the Central Pool and past offtake by the States/UTs.

Considering the availability of surplus stocks in the Central Pool, requests received from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and to augment supply of foodgrains at cheaper rates to check rise in open market prices, Government has been making additional allocation of foodgrains for APL category also, over and above the

normal allocation under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), from time to time as per the details given below :

2010-11

- i. 30.66 lakh tons of rice and wheat allocated in May 2010 for distribution to all families, including APL category, covered under TPDS.
- ii. 25 lakh tons of rice and wheat allocated in January 2011 to all States/UTs for APL families.
- iii. 31.06 lakh tons of foodgrains in August 2010 to ensure a minimum APL allocation of 15/35 kg of foodgrains per family per month for six months to States/UTs where it was less than that quantity.

2011-12

- iv. 50 lakh tons of rice and wheat allocated for APL families in States/UTs at APL prices, thereby increasing the per family APL allocation to 15/35 kg where it was less than quantity from June 2011 till March 2012.

During the current year (2012-13) also, Government has made an additional allocation of 60 lakh tons of rice and wheat for APL families at APL prices thereby continuing till March 2013 enhanced per family APL allocation of 15/35 kg in States/UTs.

Speculation on Food Items

†3279. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether futures trading and speculation on food items is one of the major reasons for rising inflation and whether this has encouraged the trend of hoarding and black marketing in the market;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any policy to check the futures trading; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the State Governments which have taken meaningful action against speculations, black marketeers and hoarders, which has led to the seizure of hoarded and black marketed goods to check the futures trading in public interest; and
- (d) the details thereof; State-wise for last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) No, Sir. Futures trading gives only the advance and aggregated information of the likely price scenario

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.