

of mass consumption at zero or concessional import duties together with restriction on their exports, prescribing stock holding limits under the Essential Commodities Act, allocation of foodgrains at affordable prices under Targeted Public Distribution Scheme (TPDS).

Diversion of stocks to black markets

2503. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that employees are suspected of diverting godown stocks to black markets;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken against the erring officials, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. As per allotment by Government of India, stocks are lifted from FCI godowns under Public Distribution System (PDS) and further distributed only by State Government/ State Agencies. No FCI employee has been found to be involved/suspected in the activity of diverting stocks to black markets.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

Review of foodgrains procurement policy

2504. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is reviewing the foodgrains procurement Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of foodgrains procurement made during the present financial year; and
- (d) the quantum of foodgrains needed for the entire Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to review the foodgrains procurement Policy.

(c) the details of procurement of wheat and rice during the current marketing seasons (Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) and [Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2012-13] are as under:—

(In lakh tonnes)

Foodgrains	Procurement
Wheat	381.48
Rice*	133.93

*As on 12.12.2012, procurement in KMS 2012-13 is continuing.

(d) Government of India is making allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for 6.52 crore BPL (including AAY) families and 11.52 crore APL families. In addition, additional allocations of foodgrains, over and above the normal TPDS allocation are also being made. The details of allocations of foodgrains during the current year is given below:—

(in lakh tonnes as on 12.12.2012)

Sl. No.	Categories	Total
1.	Normal TPDS allocation	499.42
2.	Additional BPL allocation	50.00
3.	Poorest district allocation	19.42
4.	Allocation for floods, festivals etc.	7.10
5.	OWS allocation	49.00
TOTAL:		624.94

Competency of BIS

2505. SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BISs) was found incompetent in formulation, printing and adoption of standards as well as was unable to perform