

(c) the details of demand made by the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) There is no fixed quota of edible oils for States including Assam under the scheme for distribution of subsidised imported edible oils for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). The allocation is made to States as per their demand.

(b) and (c) The State of Assam has not participated in the scheme during the last three years and no demands have been received from Government of Assam.

Supply of ethanol to OMCS

4217. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Sugar Mills Association has urged the Government to speed up the ethanol tendering process of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), so that the factories could begin supplies;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is a fact that OMCs had floated tender in January and the delay in finalising of tender by OMCs has left the millers to supply their molasses to other uses like cattle feed and industrial alcohol; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) has recently represented to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas stating, *inter-alia*, that there has been delay in finalization of tender issued by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for procurement of ethanol.

(c) and (d) The OMCs floated tender on 29th December, 2012 for their requirement of 140.40 crore litres of ethanol in accordance with the decision of the Government dated 22.11.2012. Price bids were opened on 15.02.2013 and after price negotiations, Letters of Intent (LOI) have been sent. The process is continuing.

In the above said representation, ISMA has also submitted that the delay in finalising of tender is causing the sugar mills to commit their quantities to alternate buyers or export it for cattle feed.

Beneficiaries under Antyodaya Anna Yojana

‡4218. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from States for increasing the number of beneficiaries under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY);

(b) if so, the details thereof and Governments reaction thereto and the steps taken in this regard;

(c) the details of the existing mechanism to ensure distribution of foodgrains to the future beneficiaries of AAY; and

(d) whether Government has recently conducted any assessment/evaluation of AAY?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) and (b) Against the total accepted number of 250 crore AAY families given to State/UT Governments, upto March 2013, the States/UTs have reported issuance of AAY ration cards to 2.43 crore AAY families.

Requests have been received from State Governments and others for coverage of additional families under AAY and allocation of foodgrains to them in States such as Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.

As the State Governments are required to identify AAY families within the ceiling of number of AAY families allocated to each State, the requests for coverage of additional families under AAY beyond the targeted number could not be acceded to. State/UT Governments are also advised from time to time to review the existing list of AAY beneficiaries and remove the ineligible beneficiaries so as to include only the most eligible.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.