

**Sale of rice and wheat in the open market**

1441. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) what was the quantity of rice and wheat sold in the open market through PDS during the last three years;
- (b) the rate, per quintal, at which these commodities were sold;
- (c) the difference between the minimum support prices of rice and wheat, sold in the open market; and
- (d) whether these sales had any moderating impact on inflation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) Rice and wheat from Central Pool are not sold through Public Distribution System (PDS) under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS).

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Corruption due to engagement of private individuals in PDS**

†1442 SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cases of corruption in Public Distribution System (PDS) has increased due to engagement of private individuals in distribution of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the black marketing of PDS foodgrains is going on openly in the country; 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) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments wherein the operational

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.