

**Statement-II**

*Procedure laid down and instructions issued for supply of good quality foodgrains under PDS to State Governments and FCI:*

- (i) Only good quality foodgrains free from insect infestation and conforming to the Standards of Food Safety and Standards Act/Rules (formerly PFA) are to be issued under TPDS.
- (ii) Ample opportunities are to be provided to the State Government to check the quality of foodgrains prior to lifting the foodgrain stocks from FCI godowns.
- (iii) Samples of foodgrains are to be collected and sealed from the stocks of foodgrains to be issued under the TPDS jointly by FCI and State Food & Civil Supplies Department for display in Fair Price Shops (FPSs) for the benefit of consumers. FPS dealers are to maintain a complaint register to enable the consumers to lodge their complaints, in case the quality of the foodgrains issued is not proper.
- (iv) An officer not below the rank of Inspector is to be deputed from State Government to take the delivery of foodgrain stocks from FCI godowns.
- (v) Regular inspection to check the quality of foodgrains is to be carried out by the officers of State Government and surprise checks are carried out by the officers of Quality Control Cell of the Ministry.
- (vi) It is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT Administration to ensure that during transportation and storage at different stages in the distribution chain, the foodgrains retain the required quality specifications.
- (vii) The State Government, where the decentralized procurement is in operation, should ensure that the quality of foodgrains issued under TPDS and other welfare schemes meet the desired standards under the Food Safety and Standards Act.

**Food inflation due to mismanagement of foodgrains**

2196. SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, as per the Planning Commission, the main reason for food inflation in the country is mismanagement of foodgrain system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the response of Government thereto;
- (d) whether food inflation in the country has been higher than any developed or developing country of the world during the recent years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Foodgrains under NFSB**

†2197. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has made provision for giving seven kilograms of foodgrains per month to the person living below poverty line under the proposed National Food Security Bill (NFSB);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is satisfied with the fact that 230 grams of foodgrains per day is sufficient for nourishment of a person;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for making provision for giving seven kilograms of food grains per person per month?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Bill, 2011, introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22.12.2011, 2011 seeks to entitle upto 75% of the rural population (with at least 46% belonging to the priority households) and upto 50% of the urban population (with at least 28% belonging to the priority households) to receive foodgrains at subsidized prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Priority households will be entitled to receive 7 kg of foodgrains per person per month at prices not exceeding Rs. 3, 2 and 1 per kg for rice, wheat and coarse grains respectively.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.