

- g. Making senior management functionaries responsible for exercising effective supervision & control in QC functions during the period of food grain procurement so that procurement of Below Rejection Limit (BRL) food grains can be ruled out to large extent.

Entitlements of children in National Food Security Bill

2211. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to implement food security system in the country and so considering to introduce the National Food Security Bill for enacting legislation to this effect;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are certain shortcomings in the proposed Bill, with regard to entitlements of children and some States are opposing the Bill in the present form;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to include the entitlements of children in the Bill and satisfy the opposing States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) Government introduced the National Food Security Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha on 22.12.2011 to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity. Besides coverage of 75% and 50% of the rural and urban population respectively for subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System, the Bill also contains separate provisions for nutritional support to women and children. Various provisions of the Bill, including those relating to children, have been prepared after wide ranging consultations with various stakeholders, including State Governments. There is a broad agreement on provisions relating to children.

Additional foodgrains for poorest districts

2212. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated additional foodgrains at BPL rates for some identified poorest districts in some States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total allocation of foodgrains made by Government at BPL rates to those districts;

(c) whether Government would also consider to increase such allocation to all the poorest districts of all the States including Tamil Nadu; 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) to (d) In pursuance of the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court and as per the recommendations of the Committee headed by Justice (Retd.) D.P. Wadhwa, Government has allocated 44.90 lakh tons of foodgrains at Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) central issue prices for distribution to additional BPL and AAY families in the identified poorest districts in 27 States of the country, out of which 37.75 lakh tons of foodgrains was allocated at BPL rates. This is a one-time allocation made on the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court. However during 2012-13, Government has allocated 50 lakh tons of additional foodgrains at BPL prices to the States/UTs for additional BPL families, out of which Tamil Nadu has been allocated 5.09 lakh tons of foodgrains.

Reaching of foodgrains to the needy persons

†2213. 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 the foodgrains being distributed in the country each year through Public Distribution System is not reaching to the needy persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the main reason behind this mismanagement is the lack of coordination between the Central and the State Governments; 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)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.