

Therefore, NTPC has not been facing shortage in coal supply. The coal supply from CIL sources in April, 2013 (upto 23.04.2013) continues to be 100% of the committed quantity under FSA/MoU. Therefore, no situation has arisen which may affect power production at NTPC plants.

**Delay in issuance of ration cards**

3586. 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 there is a great delay in issuing new ration cards to the applicants especially BPL families due to which they are deprived of getting their monthly rations in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that, due to inordinate delay in distribution of ration cards, applicants are being put to many sufferings and are being deprived of getting their monthly ration items in time;

(d) the details thereof; and

(e) the measures being adopted by Government to solve this problem at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) There have been complaints about irregularities in the functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in some States/regions in the country. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Therefore, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

In terms of the PDS (Control) Order, 2001, the designated authority appointed by the State/UT Government shall issue a ration card within one month of the date of receipt of the application after necessary checks and verification.

Further, the Revised Model Citizens' Charter issued by this Department in July,

2007 for adoption/implementation by the States/UTs, *inter-alia* stipulates that receipt of application for ration card will be duly acknowledged. The acknowledgement will indicate the date on which the ration card can be collected, provided all the required information has been correctly given. So far, 34 States/UTs have reported adoption/implementation of Revised Model Citizens' Charter.

#### **Export of wheat**

†3587. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to export 50 lakh tonnes of wheat;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when a final decision would be taken in this regard;
- (c) whether Government would provide the wheat kept in godowns for export, so that it can be saved from getting rotten; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has recently allowed sale of upto 50 lakh tons of wheat till 30-6-2013 from the Central Pool stocks in Punjab and Haryana pertaining to the stocks of year 2011-12, through private traders for export purposes. This channel has been opened in order to speed up the evacuation of surplus old stocks of wheat in Central Pool.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Wastage of foodgrains**

3588. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains in large quantity get spoiled every year in the absence of proper storage arrangement in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.