by section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (10 of 1955), the Central Government has notified Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 on 31.8.2001.

A Nine Point Action Plan for curbing the leakages/diversion of foodgrains under TPDS was also evolved in July, 2006 in consultation with the State/UT Governments for implementation by States/UTs.

Further, Government has been regularly issuing advisories and holding conferences wherein State/UT Governments are requested for continuous review of lists of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, improving the offtake of allocated foodgrains, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops (FPSs), greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, improving the viability of FPS operations, etc.

Government has also taken up a Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations during the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17). Under the scheme, financial assistance is being provided to States/UTs on cost sharing basis for the computerisation of TPDS including digitization of ration card and other databases, computerisation of supply chain management, setting up of transparency portal, grievance redressal mechanisms, etc.

Further, the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 *inter-alia* contains measures for reforms in TPDS to be undertaken progressively by the Central and State Governments. Provisions for transparency and accountability in TPDS, including disclosure of records of TPDS, conduct of social audit, setting up of Vigilance Committees at the State, district, block and fair price shop levels, grievance redressal mechanism at the district and State levels have also been made in the Act.

Action against hoarder and black-marketers

3029. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether artificial shortage has been created by hoarders and black-marketers who store vegetables *viz.* onions, tomatoes etc. if so, the action taken against them; and

(b) how many arrests were made for hoarding and black-marketing, godowns searched and quantity of onions seized during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No such incident has been reported by the States or Union Territories.

(b) A Statement of action taken by the States Governments and Union Territories during 2012 and 2013 is given in Statement.

Statement

Action taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 *during the years* 2012-13
(Relating to offences other than violation of stock control orders)

Updated as on 7.02.2014

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of raids conducted		No. of Persons						Value of goods confiscated (Rs. in lakhs)	
				Arrested		Prosecuted		Convicted			
		2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14096	13123	12	19	0	–	1	0	394.31	1160.88
2.	Arunachal Pradesh										
3.	Assam	1122	900	1	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	30.07	0.59
4.	Bihar	98	61	36	4	–	–	–	–	86.20	17.74
5.	Chhattisgarh	186	–	0	–	23	–	5	–	102.96	–
6.	Delhi	Nil	–	Nil	–	Nil	–	Nil	–	Nil	–
7.	Goa	55	98	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Gujarat	21408	14809	67	71	36	35	–	–	216.52	174.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9.	Haryana	49	15	56	12	13	1	–	–	37.07	3.51
10.	Himachal Pradesh	7663	27538	2	2	–	–	365	898	20.14	10.03
11.	Jammu and Kashmir										
12.	Jharkhand										
13.	Karnataka	784	308	69	55	0	5	0	0	21.22	98.99
14.	Kerala	17357	21929	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13.04
15.	Madhya Pradesh										
16.	Maharashtra	1515	978	2234	1404	1386	415	0	0	20222.19	49267.37
17.	Manipur	9	3	8	8	5	–	1	–	6.25	0.56
18.	Meghalaya	130	103	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	Mizoram										
20.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Odisha	43420	18143	2	–	147	51	–	–	7	1.48
22.	Punjab	120	327	1	4	1	7	1	–	2.09	0.64
23.	Rajasthan										

24.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	Tamil Nadu	3286	7324	1030	3671	590	1163	29	60	184.65	3526.38
26.	Tripura	205	81	2	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	6.12	1.19
27.	Uttarakhand										
28.	Uttar Pradesh	25524	33642	273	307	984	1005	6	8	1112.71	893.89
29.	West Bengal	451	547	226	151	138	13	–	0	229.52	62.48
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	95	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
31.	Chandigarh	2	–	8	–	–	–	–	–	0.08	–
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli										
33.	Daman and Diu										
34.	Lakshadweep										
35.	Puducherry	715	450	70	10	97	30	2	0	12.55	26.83
	TOTAL:	138290	140379	4102	5718	3423	2725	410	966	22691.65	55260