

rice, jowar, bajra, onions, tomatoes, potatoes, moong dal, tuar dal and edible oils, milk and eggs;

2. Identification by State Governments of vulnerable areas prone to supply shortages for special monitoring;
3. Focus on adequate storage as well as quality of Coarse cereals like Jowar, Bajra and Maize to ensure availability. In this context States may also mobilise existing storage capacity utilizing the Government/private/Cooperative storage infrastructure to ensure decentralized stocks across cities/rural areas;
4. States may establish a revolving fund for buying products/produce in bulk and regulate their storage as well as distribution during peak demand *i.e.* festival season at reasonable prices and through PDS for BPL card holders; and
5. Facilitating sale of essential food items through PDS shops, cooperative societies etc. for coverage of economically weaker sections at reasonable prices.

Distribution of iodised salt through PDS

3309. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that still over 25 per cent of the population consume non-iodised salt;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the data of the non-iodised salt consumption, State-wise;
- (d) the number of States that distribute iodised salt through Public Distribution System (PDS) enabling it to reach the poor people; and
- (e) the extent to which the iodised salt distributed through PDS is cheaper as compared to the ones sold in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Investment in food processing industry

3310. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) how much investment was made by the Central Government, various State