

(a) whether Government is seized of a possible shortfall in foodgrain production during the ensuing Kharif season due to delayed and insufficient rainfall predicted by the Meteorological Department;

(b) whether as a contingency plan, Government is holding sufficient buffer stocks to meet the continuing requirements of PDS, social welfare schemes like Mid-Day Meal Scheme, MNREGA and the National Food Security Scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The stock position of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central Pool as on 1.7.2014 was 610.37 lakh tons comprising of 212.36 lakh tons of rice and 398.01 lakh tons of wheat. The current level of foodgrains is adequate to meet the requirement of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) at the existing level of allocation.

Foodgrains lying in godowns of FCI

434. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains lying in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) throughout the country; and

(b) whether Government intends to distribute them through PDS and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) The stock position of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central Pool as on 1.7.2014 was 610.37 lakh tons comprising of 212.36 lakh tons of rice and 398.01 lakh tons of wheat.

(b) During the current year 2014-15, Government has provisionally allocated a quantity of 556.86 lakh tons of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) which includes normal TPDS allocation of 483.30 lakh tons, additional allocation of 66.45 lakh tons for Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, and 7.11 lakh tons for natural calamity, festivals and other TPDS requirements.