and co-operative sectors; allow procurement of agricultural commodities directly from farmer's field and to establish effective linkage between the farm production and the retail chain and Food Processing Industries. States have also been advised to provide institutional support to contract farming arrangements in which national and multi-national companies enter into contracts for marketing of agricultural produce as an effective method of linking small farmers to source of extension advice, seed, credit and to assured and profitable markets. At the National Conference of State Agriculture Minister held at New Delhi on 07.01.2004, all the State Governments agreed to review their respective APMC Act for implementing the suggested reforms.

Foodgrain allocation to States under Antyodaya Anna Yojna

†536. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have allocated foodgrains to various States under Antyodaya Anna Yojna';
- (b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains allocated to each State under the said scheme during the last three years;
- (c) whether States have made proper utilization of foodgrains allocated by the Central Government;
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of necessary steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity of foodgrains (rice and wheat) allocated to each State/UT under Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) during the last three years is given in the Statement.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments. The Central Government is responsible for the procurement and transportation of foodgrains up to the Principal Distribution Centres of the Food Corporation of India while the State Governments are responsible for the identification of families living Below the Poverty Line, the issue of Ration Cards and distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries through Fair Price Shops.

The offtake against the allocation of foodgrains under Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 was 85.62%, 85.73% and 83.93% respectively which is quite satisfactory.

- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The steps taken by Government in this regard are:
 - (i) The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been issued on 31st August, 2001 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 with a view to curb wilful adulteration, substitution, diversion, theft of stocks from the Central godown to Fair Price Shops and at the premises of the FPS etc. Each State/UT will have to furnish utilisation certificate within a period of two months from the month for which allocation is made.
 - (ii) A Task Force has been constituted to look into the irregularities in the implementation of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) in the identified areas.
 - (iii) States/UTs have been asked to actively involve the Gram Pahchayats in rural areas and local bodies in urban areas in the monitoring of Fair Price Shop as a measure of social audit.
 - (iv) A model Citizen's Charter has been issued to all the States/ UTs for adoption.

RAJYA SABHA

Statement Allocation of foodgrains under AAY

			(Figures in '000 Tonnes	
SI .No.	States/UTs	Alloc (Rice 2001-02	cation of foodg & wheat) under	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	186.84	2002 <u>03</u> 261.576	337.946
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.13	6.348	6.348
3.	Assam	28.15	118.236	118.236
4.	Bihar	150.0	420.0	420.0
5.	Chhattisgarh	86.22	120.708	155.967
6.	Delhi	2.40	13.440	13.440
7.	Goa	0.98	3.072	3.072
8.	Gujarat	61.75	136.500	136.500
9.	Haryana	27.35	46.968	47.664
10.	Himachal Pradesh	23.62	33.060	33.060
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	25.41	47.424	47.424
12.	Jharkhand	91.63	153.936	153.936
13.	Karnataka	84.11	200.373	218.280
14.	Kerala	71.46	100.044	118.057
15.	Madhya Pradesh	189.72	265.608	330.605
16.	Maharashtra	267.86	420.720	451.100
17.	Manipur	1.91	10.716	10.716
18.	Meghalaya	3.52	11.808	11.808
19.	Mizoram	3.16	4.416	5.490
20.	Nagaland	2.84	7.944	9.960
21.	Orissa	88.47	212.316	212.316
22.	Punjab	19.72	30.120	30.120
23.	Rajasthan	111.78	156.492	181.852
24.	Sikkim	1.18	2.820	3.604
25.	Tamil Nadu	35.48	290.495	300.024
26.	Tripura	7.92	18.996	18.996
27.	Uttar Pradesh	260.79	665.418	830.885
28.	Uttaranchal	11.45	32.052	32.052
29.	West Bengal	109.93	307.788	307.788
30.	Andman & Nicobar	0.82	1.800	1.806
31.	Chandigarh	0.32	0.888	0.888
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.84	1.176	1.176
33.	Daman & Diu	0.18	0.252	0.252
34.	Lakshadweep	0.04	0.168	0.168
35.	Pondicherry	1.13	3.850	4.376
	TOTAL:	1960.11	4127.528	4555.912