

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Implementation of the Act required completion of preparatory activities by States/Union Territories, such as identification of eligible households, necessary strengthening of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), including its end-to-end computerization and setting up of grievance redressal mechanism, in which some of the States/UTs faced certain problems initially. Now the Act is being implemented in all the 36 States/UTs.

(c) Currently, 25.75 lakh tons of rice and 19.97 lakh tons of wheat is being allocated per month for all the 36 States/UTs implementing NFSA.

(d) All India production of foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) for the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 is as under:

Year	Production of foodgrains (in million tons)
2014-15	234.87
2015-16	235.76

(e) Yes, Sir.

Supply of additional foodgrains to Kerala

3444. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed by Central Government to allocate foodgrains to States for Public Distribution System;

(b) how much foodgrains and sugar is provided to Kerala as per the existing criteria;

(c) whether there is any reduction in the allocation, if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) whether in view of more than 25 lakh workers from outside working in Kerala, the Central Government would allocate additional foodgrains for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) **Foodgrains:** Under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 foodgrains are allocated to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for distribution to eligible households @ 5kg per person per month for priority households and @ 35kg per family per month for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households at highly subsidized prices of ₹ 1/-, ₹ 2/- and

₹ 3/- per kg for coarse grains, wheat and rice respectively. The State/UT Governments are being allocated foodgrains as per their demand and the entitlement under NFSA.

Sugar: The Central Government has decontrolled the sugar sector by removing the levy obligation on sugar mills from 2012-13 sugar seasons. Under the new dispensation of sugar distribution through PDS effective from June, 2013, the State Governments/UTs are required to procure it from the open market through a transparent system for distribution under PDS. The Central Government is reimbursing fixed subsidy to the States/UTs @ ₹ 18.50 per Kg. limited to the quantity as per their existing fixed quota based on the BPL families of the year 2001 Census.

(b) Kerala has implemented NFSA from 1st November, 2016 and accordingly, 68880.668 tons of rice and 16579.217 tons of wheat have been allocated under AAY and Priority category and 26835.124 tons of rice and 6459.074 tons of wheat under tide over category.

The existing annual fixed quota of sugar for Kerala is 52836 MT.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per the existing policy *i.e.* CCEA's decision dated 02.01.2014, additional allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs for distribution under TPDS for additional requirement can be made at economic cost subject to availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool.

Setting up of a body to monitor price fluctuation of essential commodities

†3445. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any integrated system in place to deal with sharp fluctuations in the prices of essential commodities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is considering to constitute a body to monitor and intervene in cases of sharp changes in prices of essential commodities, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed for constitution of such body, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The Government is monitoring the prices of select essential commodities on a daily

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.