

of India's food security policy which aims to ensure adequate supply of food grains and distributing them at affordable prices.

Undermining this objective, the Ministry of Food has decided to stop supplying subsidized kerosene and sugar to Andhra Pradesh from the next month onwards. Taking advantage of this, without making any alternative arrangements, the Government of Andhra Pradesh stopped supplying kerosene and sugar to BPL families and AAY families and also decided that henceforth even rice will not be supplied through PDS. Those who wish to buy rice would get the subsidy component of rice transferred to their bank accounts. The Andhra Pradesh Government is saying that it cannot bear the transportation cost of food grains. This decision of the Government of Andhra Pradesh really created panic among the poor and AAY families since they get nothing from the subsidy amount.

Sir, it is an irony that during the earlier regime in Andhra Pradesh between 2004 and 2009 under Amma Hastam, the Government used to supply 1 kg. of Arhar, 1 kg. of palm oil, 1 kg. of Atta, 1 kg of wheat, 1 kg. of iodized salt, 250 gms. of chili powder, 1/2 kg of tamarind and 100 gms. of turmeric for Rs. 185 to poor families. But, now, only rice, kerosene and sugar are being supplied. If you stop even these, where the poor will go?

Secondly, thousands of PDS dealers are surviving on ration shops. With this decision, they are on the verge of closure.

Hence, I request the hon. Prime Minister to intervene and ensure that all essential commodities are supplied through Public Distribution System. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Shri Ali Anwar Ansari; not present. Shri D. Bandyopadhyay; not present. Shri Manish Gupta.

**Demand for taking suitable measures for proper utilization of funds under
Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (P.M.K.S.Y.)**

SHRI MANISH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, my Special Mention refers to the under utilization of funds under PMKSY, that is, *Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana*.

One of the main reasons for farmers' distress and crop failures in the country is due to the lack of proper irrigation system in place. Since the inception of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana in 2015, the total funds allocated are Rs. 20,925 crores whereas the

[Shri Manish Gupta]

promised allocation was ₹ 30,000 crores, that is, only 70 per cent. The Revised Estimates of the funds so far allotted depicts the reality of improper utilization at the ground level. In the year 2016-17, the Government has drastically reduced the budget allotted for the PMKSY by approximately ₹ 2,000 crores bringing it to ₹ 5,767 crores. Above this, the Revised Estimates of the scheme are ₹ 5,187 crores only, which is 51 per cent of the promised average allocation.

Under this project with a tag line of "*Har Khet Ko Pani*", the Central Government allotted an average of ₹ 7,000 crores per year for the whole country. It must be noted that in Bengal, the budget for 'Irrigation and Waterways' is ₹ 2,140 crores for 2017-18. Moreover, the State has also initiated a scheme called "*Jaltirtha*" for addressing the problem of irrigation coverage. So far, a budget of approximately ₹ 500 crores has been spent by the Government under '*Jaltirtha*' with emphasis on surface water management in the State.

Therefore, it is imperative that the Government completely utilizes the funds allocated under PMKSY to ensure the welfare of farmers across the nation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Shrimati Wansuk Syiem; not present.

The House stands adjourned till 1100 hours on Thursday, the 27th July, 2017.

*The House then adjourned at twenty minutes past
six of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Thursday, the 27th July, 2017.*