

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6856
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
DROUGHT RELIEF MANAGEMENT
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government are considering to authorise Central Relief Commissioner for making advance information about allocation of foodgrains to states to check the situation in drought affected areas from deteriorating;
- (b) if so, the time by when;
- (c) whether drought relief management is facing many problems due to decentralisation process adopted by the Union Government;
- (d) if so, whether the Government are considering to issue 50 per cent of allocated foodgrains to States in beginning so that States may not face problems in supplying foodgrains to drought affected areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI S L MAHARIA)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): Allocation of foodgrains for generation of relief employment is made on the basis of a fixed criteria adopted by the Task Force on Drought. The releases have been made in the advance for the period April-June, 2003 for most of the seriously affected States except those which have substantial unutilized balances for the earlier period. This arrangement is working well and no complaints exist about this procedure leading to delay in release of foodgrains.