

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1827

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005

HOARDING AND BLACK MARKETING OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that the incidents of adulteration, hoarding and black marketing of essential commodities are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during the last three years and thereafter till date, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government against the persons found involved in such cases?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) to (c): The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 empowers Government to detain persons whose activities are found to be prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. The Act is being implemented by the State Governments/ UT Administrations for the prevention of unethical trade practices like hoarding and blackmarketing etc. of such commodities. As per the records available in the Central Government, the detention orders made by the various State Governments during the last three years and upto 30.11.2005 are as under:-

States/UTs	During the year 2002 to 30.11.2005	During the year 2003	During the year 2004	During the 1.1.2005	From
Gujarat	80	101	63	90	
Tamil Nadu	17	05	01	02	
Orissa	01	Nil	Nil	02	
Uttar Pradesh	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	
Assam	01	Nil	11	Nil	
Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	
Total	99	107	75	95	

Other States/UTs have not reported any detention under the Act during the above period.