

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1930

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2001

DISTRIBUTION OF WHEAT AND RICE

CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received any communication from the State Government of Maharashtra for permission to convert wheat and rice meant for Above Poverty Line (APL) cardholders, lying unsold in its godowns, into that meant for Below Poverty Line (BPL) cardholders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra requested that 30,000 tonnes wheat and 20,000 tonnes rice purchased by them from Food Corporation of India (FCI) at rates applicable for families above poverty line (APL) out of the stocks lying in various godowns of the State Government may be permitted to be distributed to families below poverty line (BPL) and the differential amount on account of this conversion may be treated as due to the State Government to be adjusted towards purchase of BPL foodgrains in the coming months.

(c) The Government has decided that as soon as the State Government and/or their nominees make payment of the cost of the foodgrains allotted to them to the FCI and the latter lift the stocks from the FCI godowns/depots, the transaction is complete. As such the State Government may on their own account dispose of the surplus stocks held by them by auction or any other means as they deem fit. The decision has been conveyed to Government of Maharashtra.