

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5793  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2003  
INCLUSION IN BPL LIST  
CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware that in many States inclusion of families Below PovertyLine (BPL) has been denied to the eligible families;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases detected and reported, State-wise; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken by the Government to made BPL system foolproof?

**Answer**

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

(a): Targetted Public Distribution System is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments wherein the State Governments are responsible, inter-alia, for identification of families living below the poverty line. As per the information available more families have been identified and issued Ration Cards by State Governments/UTs under BPL category than the Planning Commission estimates of 6.52 Crore BPL families.

(b)&(c): The guidelines relating to identification of BPL families issued in 1997 emphasised that the thrust should be to include the really poor and vulnerable sections of the society. The States have been instructed to actively involve the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the identification of BPL families in the rural areas and the local bodies in the urban areas. The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001, which has come into force on 31.8.2001, provides that the State Governments shall get the lists of BPL families finalized in a meeting of the Gram Sabha. The lists are also required to be reviewed every year for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families.