

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4863
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008
COMMODITIES UNDER PDS
Bhagora Shri Mahavir

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to distribute some other items including postage stamps in addition to the commodities being presently distributed through Public Distribution System (PDS); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Strengthening of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) by streamlining its functioning is a continuous process. The Government has been taking a series of measures to streamline functioning of TPDS.

There is no proposal to distribute items like postage stamps through the TPDS. However, in view of the rise in prices of essential commodities witnessed during the recent past, Government has decided to import about one million tons of edible oils to allocate them to State/UT Governments at subsidized prices. These edible oils are to be distributed to BPL including AAY families. The State/UT Governments may organize this distribution through the network of fair price shops or other distribution channels.