

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2369

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008

STARVATION DEATHS

Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

(a) whether some deaths due to starvation have been reported from various parts of the country including Lakhimpur Kheeri in Uttar Pradesh during 2008;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government has sought report on the starvation deaths from the State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the State Governments thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide foodgrains to poor and check starvation deaths in the country?

**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)&(c): Government has sought details on starvation deaths, if any, from various States/UT Governments. However, no incidence of starvation death has been reported by any State/Union Territory Government including in Lakhimpur Kheeri in Uttar Pradesh during 2008 so far.

(d): For maintaining food security in the country and supplying foodgrains to people living below poverty line, Government has been implementing the following schemes:

1. Targeted Public Distribution System: Government is allocating foodgrains to States & UTs at subsidized rates for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) ration card holder families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Under this scheme, BPL & AAY families are provided foodgrains @ 35 kg. per family per month. Depending upon availability of foodgrains in the Central pool, they are also allocated for APL category of population.

2. Under Annapurna scheme implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above who, though eligible under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) but are not getting pension, are provided 10 kg. of foodgrains per person per month free of cost.

3. Under the Emergency Feeding Programme (EFP) implemented by Department of Food and Public Distribution through the State Government of Orissa, in eight KBK Districts of Orissa, foodgrains (rice) at BPL rates are being allocated to State Government of Orissa for approximately 2 lakh beneficiaries.

4. Under the Village Grain Bank Scheme being implemented by the Department of Food & Public Distribution through the State & UT Governments, foodgrains are loaned to people in need of foodgrains from the Village Grain Banks.