

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3115
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010
IMPACT OF FOOD SUBSIDY
Rathod Shri Ramesh

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

- (a) whether the subsidy on food items had only a minor impact on poverty during the 11th Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has solicited the views of industry and people at large in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): No, Madam. Under Targeted Public Distributed System (TPDS), foodgrains are made available at highly subsidized rates @ 35 kg/family per month to 6.52 crore below poverty line (BPL) families (including AAY) based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission on population projections of March 2000. Allocation to 11.52 crore APL families are also made at subsidized rates ranging from 10 to 35 kg / family per month depending upon availability of stocks. The allocation under the TPDS and the actual Offtake has been increasing due to higher demand by State Governments for above poverty line (APL) allocation. The Central Issue Prices of foodgrains issued under TPDS are as under:-

(Rs. per quintal)
Foodgrains BPL APL AAY

Wheat 415 610 200

Rice 565 830 300

Issue of foodgrains at highly subsidized rates to poor helps in increasing availability of foodgrains to them.