

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3184  
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010  
FOOD BASED PROGRAMMES .  
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

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

- (a) the details of Food based programmes being implemented by the Government for providing food to Below Poverty Line families both in rural and urban areas, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the implementation and effectiveness of the said programmes; and
- (c) if so, the details and 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) to (c): Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and under Emergency Feeding Programme (EFP), the Government has been making allocation of food grains at highly subsidized prices to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families through the State/UT Governments. The EFP is implemented in the KBK districts of Orissa to provide cooked food to old, infirm and indigent persons from BPL households. TPDS is implemented in all States/UTs including Madhya Pradesh jointly by the Government of India and State/Union Territory Governments with sharing of responsibilities. Responsibilities of the State/UT Governments include lifting of food grains allocated by the Government of India, distribution of the food grains within the State/ UT under TPDS and supervision over distribution of allocated food grains to eligible ration card holders/beneficiaries through Fair Price Shops and other institutional mechanisms.

To assess functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), a concurrent evaluation study was conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in 12 States. NCAER has submitted reports on concurrent evaluation of TPDS in respect of six States in November 2007 and for six other States in January, 2009. In the study, it has been found that the delivery mechanism of TPDS was quite effective in nine of the twelve selected States where more than 80 per cent of the BPL households obtained their entitled quantity of cereals regularly. In the selected States, majority of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households received close to the fixed entitlement of rice and wheat (35 Kg) except in the case of Assam, Bihar and Mizoram. These reports have been sent to the concerned State Governments for taking necessary remedial measures to streamline TPDS.

The Government has issued instructions to States/Union Territories to streamline and strengthen TPDS by monitoring and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, use of Information and Communication Technology and improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations.

Reports on implementation of these measures are received by the Government and compiled for monitoring the functioning of TPDS. No assessment of EFP has been made.