

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4063  
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010  
FOODGRAINS FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOUR  
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide foodgrains to the agricultural labourers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The Central Government allocates foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35 kg. per family per month. Families of agricultural labourers who are identified as BPL/AAY families are also covered by the above allocation. The guidelines for identification of AAY families include landless agricultural labourers and marginal famers to be covered under AAY.

TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Government of India and State/UT Governments. The responsibility of identification of eligible BPL & AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through fair price shops rests with the State/UT Government.

Hence, the responsibility for distribution of foodgrains to all eligible BPL families including agricultural labourers who are eligible to be covered under TPDS rests with the State/UT Governments.